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THE TIMES

Mrs Shirley Williams: No retreat from Europe, page 14

Iran President pledges release of four Britons

'resident Bani-Sadr of Iran has told 'The 'imes' that the four Britons detained in a 'ehran jail will definitely be freed. He said that ocuments which had been thought to indicate iat they were spying gave no proof of such ctivities. No charges against the four have een made. They were arrested in August.

'Documents not proof they were spies'

'rom Tony Allaway
ehran, Feb 5

President Bani-Sadr of Iran as said that four Britons held n a Tehran prison will be reed. In an interview with *The 'imes* in the southern war zone f Khuzestan, he said that the *uthorities responsible for the* ases "have told me they will e freed."

He added: "It has been said hat there were some docuents that they were spying. ut recently they said the docuents do not prove they were pies."

The four Britons, Dr John Coleman, his wife Audrey and Miss *Jean Waddell, all missionaries*, and Mr Andrew Pyke, a businessman, were arrested last August at the height of anti-British feeling in Iran. They are believed to be held in Tehran's Evin prison but so far *no charges against them have* been announced.

The President said he personally hoped they would be freed "and go anywhere they liked".

He strongly criticized Britain for refusing to supply military equipment that Iran had paid for, as a result of the detentions.

"*If some Iranians have been* mprisoned in your country do ou think it fair if we hold up oods that belong to you and eep them? There is a wrong hing going on in the world in hat one bad action is answered y another, after crisis for uman beings in the world."

The President saved his reatest criticism for the French *and their decision to supply* Mirage jets to Iraq. "That was hostile action. It is not in rance's interests to make a ation its enemy," he said.

In a reference to Iraq President Bani-Sadr added: "This will only satisfy the aggressive fascists. We hope *the French* nation puts pressure on its Government . . . of course we have protested and we will protest again."

The President was circumspect about the situation on the war fronts but repeatedly indicated that Iran's *war effort* was suffering from a shortage of materials.

"We are not getting ammuni*tion or equipment from any* part of the world and we thus have to prepare our war plans in a way that we lose as little ammunition and weapons as possible. If we had had the necessary weapons I could even have told you in how many days the war would have been over."

The President implicitly acknowledged that the Iranian counter-offensive launched last month had bogged down. "Did you expect us to overcome them in one attack?" he asked.

He said that Iranian forces were involved in a third phase of the battle which is trying to "*weaken and wear down the* Iraqi forces".

The President was even more circumspect about the internal political situation. Speaking as fundamentalist newspapers launched unprecedentedly *sharp attacks on him, he would* not be drawn into an opinion on the present Government.

Asked if he had put pressure on Ayatollah Khomeini to replace Mr Muhammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister, with a more moderate figure, he said: "I can't put pressure on (the ayatollah) . . . I told him what was my belief and ideas."

Opposition rallied, page 6

PLO leader has vision of a 'democratic oasis in the Middle East' for the Palestinian people

Mr Arafat offers to visit Moscow in search of an Afghan solution

From Robert Fisk
Beirut, Feb 5

Mr Yassir Arafat, the chair*man of the Palestine Liberation* Organization, is prepared to act as a mediator in the Afghanistan conflict, if necessary by going to Moscow to propose a solution. In a long interview with *The Times* he has also declared that if a Palestinian state was to be created, it would be a liberal democracy with free elections.

"A *democratic oasis in the* Middle East" as he expansively put it. The new Palestine would then be ready to enter a special relationship with Jordan.

The PLO leader, clad in his *ubiquitous black and white kuffiah* headdress and wearing on his hip the loaded revolver that has distinguished his appearance for the past 13 years, was giving his first interview to a British newspaper *since President Reagan took* office. He said that he had been "astonished" at Mr Reagan's most recent condemnation of the *PLO* as terrorists and revealed that he had instructed the PLO's representative at the United Nations to send a memorandum to Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-*General, condemning the* President's attack.

Mr Arafat, however, scrupulously avoided insulting the new American Administration, directing his scorn against ex-President Carter rather than his *successor. And on several occasions*, he departed from his usual demand that the United States should recognize the PLO, referring instead to the necessity of recognizing "the legal rights" of the Palestinians. This shift of *emphasis* may seem of little consequence but Middle Eastern politics often revolve around the minutiae of such formula changes.

"I still remember what happened with Carter," Mr Arafat said. "On the first day he came to power, he gave his famous slogan about 'a homeland for *the Palestinians*'. At first, we said: 'OK, let us wait and see' And as chairman of the PLO I said that I appreciated what had been said. *But* I appreciated this too much . . . and what was the result?".

Camp David, he said, had turned out to be "a conspiracy of self-rule" and after President Sadat's visit to *Jerusalem* in 1977, Mr Brzezinski, Mr Carter's National Security Adviser, had given an interview in which he had said: "Bye-bye PLO."

"So we are not looking for what the Americans are saying now. We prefer to wait and see. I hope that the American Government and the American Administration will recognize the legal rights of the Palestinian people which have been accepted by the United Nations. We are four million people and we have been living in this *tragedy* for 32 years. Sixty per cent of our people have been kicked out of their homelands and are stateless. . . . The Americans have a moral and an historical responsibility over the Palestinians."

In the course of his interview, in a heavily guarded 10-storey office block in west Beirut, Mr Arafat's mood would change dramatically. One moment he would be outlining with great

Continued on page 7, col 3

Photograph by Freddie Dalgety

Fishermen unloading the last of their catch yesterday at Peterhead; where a strike *against cheap fish imports* is expected to be complete today. More than 800 boats were tied-up at Scottish ports as the protest continued. In Grimsby, 250 smack owners laid up their ships in support of fishermen in north-east England ports. Fish aid review, page 2.

Index-linked pensions needed in private sector, report suggests

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

An inquiry into the value of inflation-proofed pensions covering five million public *service workers* has concluded that there would be justice in extending index-linked pensions to workers in the private sector.

The report of the inquiry, headed by Sir Bernard Scott, deputy chairman of Lloyds Bank and former chairman of Lucas Industries, which was published yesterday, also suggested that it may be necessary for 580,000 white-collar civil servants to pay higher contributions for their pensions.

A wide range of state employees, including local government workers, teachers, miners, nurses, the police, and other nationalized industry workers are covered by index-linked pension agreements. The scheme, which was introduced in 1974, cost £3,230m last year, with £1,300m of that figure covering past and present pension increases.

In suggesting that the Government should examine the possibility of making index-linked bonds available on the money markets to fund inflation-proofing of pensions outside the public sector, the report said: "It is a highly desirable social objective that the standard of living of those in retirement should be protected".

The report points to the fact that that is recognized in countries such as France and *West Germany where benefits* to pensioners are superior to those in Britain and index-linking applies to public and private sectors.

Introducing the report yesterday, Sir Bernard said he saw no reason why index-linking of pensions should necessarily be inflationary if contributions were pitched at the right level.

On that point the report said: "Good pensions, like anything else, have to be earned and paid for during working life and the burden to be shouldered over the next 20 years will steadily grow:

"If as a society we fail to face these realities we shall find that the precept that 'it is a highly desirable social objective that the standard of living of those in retirement should be protected' will be but an empty phrase", it said.

Sir Bernard denied that the committee had exceeded its terms of reference by commenting on the value of extending *inflation-proofed pensions to* cover private sector workers, and said the committee had felt it had to comment on the case for such an extension.

He said the committee had been unable to decide, in calculating contributions, what value should be attached to the job security of public service workers. "We started off [by thinking] that they should be regarded as having more security than those in the private sector and then we looked at *the horrifying cutbacks at* British Steel and elsewhere and we decided that we simply could not reach a decision," he said. "I doubt whether any inquiry could produce such a result."

*The committee was estab*lished in May last year after an announcement in the Commons by the Prime Minister. *Its terms of reference* were to inquire into the value of differences in the inflation protection of occupational pensions and the value of relative job security for the purposes of determining public sector pay and other conditions of service.

Other members of the committee, which took evidence *from 200 organizations and individuals*, were Sir Alexander Jarratt, chairman and chief executive of Reed International, Mr Gavin Laird, executive council member of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Mr Robert Macdonald, general manager of the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society, and Professor Harold Rose, who is group *economic* adviser to Barclays Bank.

The committee appointed Professor R. A. Brealey and *Dr S. D. Hodges, of the London Business School*, to examine the question of uncertainty over future inflation rates suffered by private sector employees and, although the committee disagreed with their assumption *of negative real rates of return* on investments, it thought their "novel approach" was of considerable interest and merited serious consideration.

The report points out that the Wilson committee of inquiry into the City and financial institutions was evenly divided on the question of issuing indexed bonds for pension funds, but says: "We suggest that the Government should look seriously at the case for issuing indexed bonds to cover pension liabilities".

The report continues: "In our work, if we have been forcibly reminded that the main

Continued on page 2, col 1

H-block deadline for new hunger strike

From Craig Seton
Belfast

The Government faces a new confrontation over the H-block issue after republican prisoners at the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland yesterday set a three-week deadline for another hunger strike over their demands for political status.

A statement issued by the men in the Maze and by women at Armagh prison said a fast to the death, if necessary, would start on March 1. But in the Commons, Mr Humphrey Atkins, the Secretary of State for *Northern Ireland, said again* that political status would not be granted.

In their statement, issued through Provisional Sinn Fein, the prisoners said they had [illegible] patiently for seven weeks [illegible] the end of the last hunger [illegible] for evidence that the [illegible]ernment was prepared to [illegible]lve the crisis, but "obstacle [illegible] obstacle was *placed in our* [illegible]".

They claimed that conditions had worsened. They had chosen the fifth anniversary of the phasing out of special category status for the new hunger strike. The statement did not reveal how many would take part, but some sources said there would be four men, three IRA and a member of the Irish Republican Socialist Party, and, possibly at least one woman.

If a new hunger strike was sustained for as long as the last one it could take a protest into the Easter period, a traditional time of Republican marches.

Mr Atkins, in a lengthy parliamentary answer, said: *the principles by which the* Government have stood in the face of the protests at the Maze and Armagh prisons still stand. It will not concede that it should now establish, within the normal Northern Ireland prison regime, a special set of *conditions for particular groups*

"It will not surrender control of what goes on in the prisons to a particular group of prisoners. It will not concede the demand for political status or recognize that mur*der and violence are* less culpable because they are claimed to be committed for political motives."

Mr Atkins made it clear that the men would have to conform fully to the prison regime before they could enjoy the privileges which he had previously set out, including their own clothing, but they had *failed to do this. Provisional* Sinn Fein sources in Belfast gave a warning that this time at least one death was likely *if the issue was not resolved* and it was possible that it could be a woman.

The men and their supporters outside claim the Government reneged on an agreement over improved prison conditions, but feel that they learnt a lot from the last hunger strike and now have a chance of regaining the initiative.

Their statement says that the original hunger strikers were "*morally* blackmailed" by those who called on them to end the fast. *It* now needed to be asked of the Irish bishops, particularly Cardinal Tomás O'Fiaich and Mr John Hume, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party "what did your recommended ending of the last hunger strike gain for us?"

It goes on: "Where is the peace in the prisons which like a *promise* was held before dying men's eyes? Who but the British are respaonsible for our state which is far worse today *than it ever was?*"

Disruption by civil servants 'inevitable'

By Our Labour Reporter

Civil Service union leaders *last night said* that a campaign of industrial action against the Government next month was inevitable after they were made a 6 per cent pay offer which is virtually non-negotiable.

Leaders of the nine unions, representing 580,000 white collar civil servants, were told by government negotiators that pay increases *would not* be allowed to exceed 6 per cent, That is in line with the cash limit the Government will shortly announce for pay increases for direct state employees.

*The unions, at a short meet*ing yesterday with Mr Gordon Burrett, deputy secretary at the Civil Service Department in charge of pay *negotiations*, submitted a 15 per cent claim.

Mr William Kendall, secretary general of the Council of Civil Service Unions, said afterwards: "They made no attempt to answer any of the arguments we put to them and this means industrial action is now inevitable".

The unions have for some *weeks been preparing a cam*paign of concerted action which includes disrupting government computer centres and collection of revenues. They gave warning yesterday that air traffic and seaport personnel might also be involved.

The unions are guaranteeing striking members 85 per cent of gross salaries and estimate that a sustained *dispute will* cost them £300,000 a week. A fighting fund of more than £3m has been agreed.

The unions' intention is to cause disruption for the Government which would have as little impact as possible on the public. They aim to block the collection of revenues, which would affect the Public *Sector Borrowing Requirement* and money supply.

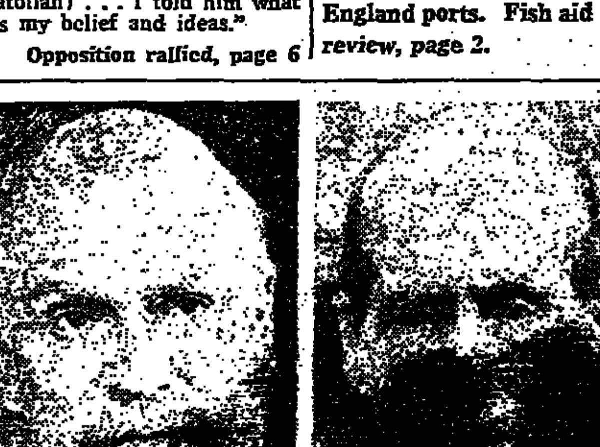
However, they would not rule out action in the departments of health and social security and employment.

US marine found guilty as Vietnam traitor

Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, Feb 5.—Marine Corps Private First Class Robert R. Garwood, the only Vietnam veteran to be tried as a traitor, was found guilty today of collaborating with the enemy and assaulting *another* American prisoner. The decision could put him in prison for life.

The five-member jury of Marine Corps officers, all of them Vietnam veterans, deliberated for more than 12 hours before reaching their verdict. It came almost two years after Private Garwood passed a note to a foreigner in a Hanoi restaurant saying he wanted to return home.

The charge of assaulting an American prisoner-of-war in a Vietcong prison camp was reduced from an original charge of maltreating another prisoner.



Sir Peter Medawar, Lord Olivier and Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, first OMs since 1977

Three named for Order of Merit

An actor, a scientist, and a war *hero are to become mem*bers of the Order of Merit, Buckingham Palace announced last night.

Lord Olivier, Sir Peter Medawar, and Group Captain Leonard Cheshire are the first members to join the order since 1977. They replace Lord Mountbatten of Burma, Graham Sutherland, and Malcolm MacDonald, who have all died within the past two years.

The order is limited to 24 *members, with the* addition of foreign honorary members, and is one of only four in the Queen's personal gift.

Lord Olivier, now 73, was made a life peer in 1970. He began his acting career in 1922 *and has played most of the* important roles in the British theatre.

Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC, aged 63, founded worldwide chain of Cheshire Cheshire Foundation Homes for the disabled.

He commanded the RAF "Dambuster" squadron during *the Second World War*

Sir Peter Medawar, FRS, aged 65, is a medical scientist and scholar who won the Nobel *Prize for Medicine in 1960* for his work on transplant surgery. He was director of the Medical *Research Council* from 1962 to 1971.

Neutron bomb denounced in Soviet Union

The Soviet Union is gearing up its propaganda apparatus for a renewed onslaught against the neutron bomb *after American announcements* that the United States would like to continue to develop the weapon. Mrs Thatcher told the Commons that it was unlikely that the proposed bomb would be *based* in Britain and the State Department in Washington attempted to calm *European fears* **Page 7**

Rebuff for TUC

The TUC's demand that the *Government* should reflate the economy by increased public spending was rejected by the Prime Minister. Opening a Commons debate, she said that her Government's fight against inflation was the only way to eventual prosperity **Page 2**

New terror in Italy

Italian police arrested the suspected leader of the Prima Linea terrorist organization after a shoot-out in Turin. In an upsurge of violence in Milan Red *Brigades gunmen seized a factory* foreman and kidnapped the wife of a building contractor **Page 6**

Police 'race squads' move supported

The idea being considered by the Home *Office of special police units* to deal with racialist attacks was welcomed by an Oldham community worker. The main cause of growing violence, he said, was high unemployment among young people in run-down areas **Page 4**

Uplift for crumbs

A new way of treating breadcrumbs has revolutionized the flagging commercial crumb market and development work has started to introduce "novelty coatings" not only for seafood and poultry *but for cakes, desserts and confectionery* **Page 17**

How siege PC hid gun

Police Constable Trevor Lock, who was in the Iranian Embassy in London during the siege, described how for four days he declined opportunities to wash himself because he feared the pistol he was hiding would be discovered **Page 5**

Witness sent to jail

A hunt saboteur who appeared in court as chief prosecution witness *against* members of a hare-coursing club accused of assaulting anti-hunt demonstrators was jailed after refusing to agree to be bound over to keep the peace for two years **Page 5**

West Germany and France open talks

The thirty-seventh Franco-German summit meeting opened in Paris and leaders of both countries emphasized the "great cordiality of the talks" intended to bring a common analysis of East-West *relations*, détente, the Polish crisis, Afghanistan, and of Europe's role in the Middle East peace initiative and world affairs **Page 6**

2,000 jobs lost

More than 2,000 jobs are being lost in the heavy vehicle industry. GKN Sankey, supplier of truck wheels, chassis and cabs is cutting 1,241 jobs at Telford, Shropshire, while 810 jobs are going at Seddon Atkinson, the truck manufacturer, in *Lancashire* **Page 17**

Talks on NUS dispute: The two sides in the seamen's dispute are to meet tomorrow, raising hopes of a settlement **2**

Prime Minister refuses to offer any concession in rejecting the TUC's demand for reflation

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday publicly rejected the call from the TUC to reflate the economy by increased public spending, saying that the centre piece of the Government's strategy remained the conquest of inflation.

Opening a debate in the Commons on her economic and industrial policies, the Prime Minister said that to spend another £4,700m as the TUC was proposing, would take the Government in a completely opposite direction.

If the union proposals were financed honestly, they would lead to increased borrowing and higher interest rates, which would damage industry's chances of recovery. If they were not financed honestly, and Mrs Thatcher said that was much more likely, the proposals would put the nation on the road to hyperinflation.

While acknowledging that the unemployment figures highlighted a human tragedy as well as a tragic waste of resources, and that there was growing concern at the continuing high level of unemployment, Mrs Thatcher told the House that the fight against inflation was far more than a worthy end in itself. It was the only way that the other economic goals could be achieved.

There was little in the Prime Minister's firm reaffirmation of government policies to cheer those MPs on her own side of the House or on the Labour benches who are urging a change of course in the interests of the unemployed.

The TUC and the Labour Party, she said, were urging the Government to go down the same old path that had been tried unsuccessfully in the past. Their proposals amounted to a huge injection of money into the economy that would take us into still higher inflation, with no prospect of unemployment ever being reduced.

Emphasizing the need for industry to become more competitive, she said that inability to compete was one of the main reasons for the shortage of orders.

The TUC's economic review for this year suggested that the unions had not learnt that lesson.

With little new to tell the House and with her message that the nation must continue to take its medicine without much sugar for the foreseeable future, Mrs Thatcher's speech was inevitably a low-key affair.

She announced, however, two new enterprise zones for the North, in Hartlepool and in Kirkby, near Wakefield.

Mrs Thatcher went on to say that things could not be put right without some pain in the process.

Stripped of the verbiage, the Prime Minister said, the call for massive extra spending of money the country did not have meant that Labour's policy was to create a new round of inflation to cure the present unemployment.

That was forgetting that the present unemployment was partly caused by the last round of inflation. The inflationary dose would have to be repeated in ever larger quantities and at ever shorter intervals.

Looking on the brighter side, Mrs Thatcher pointed out that, without controls on prices or incomes, inflation was coming down and wage settlements were moderating. For the first time for many years there was the chance to move into expansion without those inbuilt distortions to correct and with our own secure supply of energy.

Mrs Thatcher may not exactly have set the Commons afire with oratorical fervour, but Mr Michael Foot, the Leader of the Opposition, delivered a speech of such muddled complexity that even his warmest admirers must have despaired.

He accused Mrs Thatcher of failing to understand the scale of the crisis and said unemployment was far greater than she was prepared to admit. Her accounts of how the country was escaping were too optimistic and, although she might succeed in bringing down inflation, the result of her policies for industry and employment would be catastrophic.

The debate ended with the Commons' approval of the Government's economic and industrial policies after the rejection of an Opposition amendment by 309 votes to 240, a government majority of 69.

Parliamentary report, page 10

Liberal MP's warning to social democrats not being taken as insuperable obstacle

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

A Liberal MP's warning to the emerging social democrats that they could have no alliance with his party if all they intended was a "rehash" of the Labour Party was not being taken last night as indicating difficulties for the new grouping.

Mr Cyril Smith, MP for Rochdale, making much of the fact that he was speaking with the authority of Mr David Steel, the party leader, said on the BBC's *World at One* programme: "If in fact what they are trying to create is a Labour Party mark II . . . there will not be an alliance."

Mr. Smith has never been enthusiastic about a fourth party. But it is understood that at a meeting of Liberal MPs, he signified his agreement with Mr Steel's strategy of working towards an alliance with the social democrats.

However, Mr Smith has also expressed his suspicion that the Labour dissidents might harm the Liberals, and, deep down, nurture the idea that they represent the "true" Labour Party.

Mr Steel does not apparently share those fears. He does, however, in a strategy letter to about 200 Liberal candidates, confirmed the policy he has several times set out on the record. It is the first formal guidance he has given to Liberal candidates already chosen.

Mr Steel makes clear that he welcomes, and that all Liberals should welcome, any "moves to break the existing political mould". However, he outlines a three-phase approach. First, the Labour dissidents must leave their party, and if they do not, the Liberals must press on alone.

Second, they must try to reach agreement on a common political programme, and work together for the rest of this Parliament. Mr Steel notes that he does "not anticipate much difficulty on key policy priorities".

Stage three is to decide the form of alliance. Mr Steel mentions bringing the social democrats "organically inside" one renamed party, but he suggests that it will not be accepted by either partner.

He recommends instead a Liberal and social democratic alliance, in which each retains separate identity structure and policies, while reaching "if possible, agreement not to have opposing candidates in any one constituency".

The latest such poll, in today's Now! magazine, suggests that is plausible for both Dr David Owen and Mr William Rodgers.

Dr Owen wins a notional four-way contest in his Plymouth, Devonport, constituency with 55 per cent when he is the named social democratic candidate, with 25 per cent for the Conservative 16 per cent for the Labour and 4 per cent for the Liberal candidates). But as the alliances named candidate he is returned with 61 per cent.

In the Stockton-on-Tees constituency Mr Rodgers wins a four-way contest with 41 per cent (with Labour 28 per cent, Conservative 22 per cent, and Liberal 9 per cent). As the alliance candidate his vote rises to 51 per cent.

In both cases an alliance candidate is shown as winning, by smaller margins, even when no identities are involved. The poll, by Audience Selection, was taken last Saturday.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour's shadow education secretary, last night announced as "pink Toryism" the objectives of the Council for Social Democracy. He derided the list of 100 supporters published yesterday.

Survey suggests seats alliance party might win

By Ian Bradley

Social democratic candidates could win 13 seats and Liberals could win 10 in the South-west in the next election, according to a survey carried out by the regional branch of the Social Democratic Alliance (SDA).

The survey calculates that there are 23 seats in that region which could be won by an alliance of social democrats and Liberals. The calculations are based on findings by national opinion polls that about 38 per cent of the electorate would support such an alliance.

The suggestion that social democrats would do better than Liberals in Devon, Cornwall, Dorset, Somerset, Avon and Gloucestershire, is likely to annoy Liberals, who have traditionally regarded the West Country as one of their strongest areas.

Mr Roy Morris, a former Labour member of Bristol City Council and now south-west organizer of the SDA, who conducted the survey, said that he thought there would be few constituencies where there would be clashes between Liberals and social democrats about who should stand.

He expected social democrats would stand in Exeter, the three Plymouth seats, Bristol and most of the Gloucestershire seats, leaving Liberals to contest the more rural seats in the region.

He said that social democrats in constituencies where Liberals were strong were not being encouraged to form their own party and put up candidates. However, he was worried by the formation of a Democratic Group, which includes former Labour Party members and dissident Tories, in West Wiltshire.

Earlier this week Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, wrote to the party's 200 selected parliamentary candidates suggesting a Liberal and social democratic alliance with an agreement to avoid more than a single candidate in any one constituency. So far his letter has been well received by most of the prospective candidates.

Title change: Mr David Alton, who won a by-election for the Liberals in Liverpool, Edge Hill, from Labour in 1979, has backed a call for a secret ballot among the 2,000 members of the Edge Hill Liberal Association on whether they should change the title to the Liberal and Social Democrat Association.

There is opposition to the proposal from senior Liberal members of Liverpool City Council, on which the party has minority control, as well as among the grass root members.

Geoffrey Smith, page 14
Letters, page 15

In brief

Hospital's 16th heart transplant

Surgeons at Papworth h... pital, near Cambridge, carri... out their sixteenth heart tra... plant yesterday. Mr Dan... Carroll, aged 48, a father... five, from Kingston Ro... Wimbledon, was said to... breathing on his own with... new heart working well.

The operation, led by... Terence English, began at m... night and lasted 5 hours,... minutes. Mr Carroll works... the accounts department of... London company.

Fund-raising in NHS 'no threat to charities'

New powers given in... circular to health authorities... raise funds were not a threa... charities and the voluntary... tor, Sir George Young, Un... Secretary of State for Hea... said yesterday.

The type of activity permi... was "deliberately mode... limited to appeals, collecti... competitions, entertainment... bazaars, and would not pro... unfair competition for... voluntary sector, he told... seminar in London.

Widow to seek order

Mrs Jean Lawrence, a wid... who is squatting in her ho... in Basingstoke, Hampshire,... cause her holiday ten... refused to move out, is to s... a possession order. The... ants have announced that t... will seek such an order.

Leading article, page

Prince visits Cambridge

A visit by Prince Edward... Cambridge University yes... day led to speculation that... may follow in his el... brother's footsteps and ap... to the university for a pl... He is in the sixth form... Gordonstoun.

Thatcher aide resigns

Mr Richard Ryder, aged... political secretary to the Pr... Minister, is resigning in Ma... it was announced yesterday.... is to do research on a book... Washington and is conside... stading for Parliament in... next general electio.

Millionth passenger

Air Europe, the British h... day airline, which has been... operation for 20 months, car... its millionth passenger o... Boeing 737 flight from Gat... airport to Malta yesterday.... was Mrs Margaret Moore, a... 63, of Tunbridge Wells, Ken...

Trawler in tow

The British trawler, Ar... lea, which had been drifting... the Western Isles after a l... tyre became wrapped round... propeller, was taken in tow... night. The tyre had been u... to try to correct a rudder f...

Student murder charge

Ian Bealey, aged 31, a fac... charge hand, of Okehamp... Road, Exeter, was remanded... custody for eight days by Ex... magistrates yesterday accu... of the murder of Virg... Maunder, aged 20, a student...

Cliff fall driver named

A man who survived w... his car went over a cliff... Portland, Dorset, on Wednes... was named yesterday as... Derek Jennings, aged 47,... Burton Bradstock, Dorset.

Body identified

A body found washed up... Beachy Head, near Eastbour... was yesterday identified as t... of Mr Roger Laidlow, aged... of Littlefield Close, Sel... West Sussex.

Date of fish aid review advanced

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

Ministers tried to meet fishermen's demands for more aid yesterday by bringing forward the annual March review of the industry at which subsidy claims are examined. Mrs Margaret Thatcher said after a Cabinet discussion on the subject that the review date had been changed because the industry faced a "grave crisis".

It is almost certain that subsidies will be continued after the end of the financial year in March, but initial payments will be much less than the £30m considered necessary by some boat owners. State subsidies to the fishing industry in the present financial year will be worth more than £37m.

The Cabinet heard from Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, that fishermen faced a continuing cost-price squeeze which would not be alleviated by early agreement in the EEC about a common fisheries policy.

Mr Walker said after the meeting that early action was necessary because of "recent developments affecting returns to the fishing industry". He added: "During the past year the industry has been confronted with a range of serious economic problems in the absence of an agreement for a common fisheries policy".

The latest government action reflects pessimism about the bargaining session, which resumes on Monday, about a common EEC policy. Mr Walker and other ministers have had talks about fish this week with the French and Dutch governments and with senior officials of the European Commission.

Dutch review: Mr Gerrit Braks, The Netherlands Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, is to look again at the way Dutch fish is reaching Britain at low prices (Our Parliamentary Staff reports).

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, told the Commons standing committee on the Fisheries Bill yesterday that Mr Braks had told him firmly on Wednesday night in London that he had no knowledge of fish being withdrawn from sale in The Netherlands at below the minimum price, resold and exported.

He had been unequivocal about that, but had promised to look at the matter again and to let British ministers know the result of his inquiries.

Pension report displeases Mrs Thatcher

Continued from page 1

objective of public policy must be to beat inflation, we have also been reminded of the serious concern that pensions over a high proportion of the private sector are not good enough. This is so even allowing for the state scheme which comes into full effect in 1998.

"In the meantime, it is a fact that the private sector employee cannot acquire a pension that has a guarantee of inflation-proofing on any terms. Especially during this present period of recession and economic stringency, the feeling of injustice so widely held in the private sector must be recognized."

Turning to the question of pensions contributions made by civil servants, the report says that the deduction for white-collar workers should be between 3 and 8½ per cent. The deduction in 1980, calculated by the Government Actuary as the value to civil servants of index-linking, was 3.8 per cent.

When added to other contributions made by civil servants, the total deduction from pensionable pay should be within the range of 7 to 13½ per cent. That compares with the contribution of 7.9 per cent made by civil servants which, says the report, is twice as high as contributions paid by workers in comparable jobs in the private sector.

It accepts the suggestion of the Government Actuary that there should be more public scrutiny of the pensions comparison exercise and that he should be allowed to make wider use of professional actuarial bodies as a forum for discussion.

Trade union reaction to the report was generally favourable. Mr Geoffrey Drain, general secretary of the National and Local Government Officers Association, said: "A hand-picked inquiry, having no particular sympathy with the public sector and despite a very clear invitation from the Prime Minister to reach conclusions hostile to it, has produced a responsible report".

Prime Minister disappointed: The Prime Minister's disappointment at the inconclusive nature of the Scott report was not concealed in Whitehall yesterday (Our Political Editor writes).

When setting up the inquiry she had indicated that she hoped the exercise would produce a simple answer to the adjustments needed in contributions by civil servants. In the face of the dense complexities of the comparisons now reported, more consideration will be needed before action can be taken.

Leading article, page 15
Financial Editor, page 19

Protest on choice of Mr Powell

By Our Political Staff

Lord Avebury, the Liberal Party's spokesman on race relations and immigration, protested yesterday to Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour Party to recommend to the Committee of Selection that Mr Enoch Powell, Official Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, should be appointed to the standing committee that is to examine the Nationality Bill.

The Liberals had put forward the name of Mr David Alton, MP for Liverpool, Edge Hill, to be a member of the committee as a representative of the minority parties. Since the Liberals have no member on the Committee of Selection, they have to rely on the recommendations of the Labour whips.

"I was horrified and amazed to learn that Mr Enoch Powell, whose views on race are well known and must be as objectionable to you as they are to me, has been appointed to serve on the Nationality Bill standing committee as a result of the deicsion of your whips". Lord Avebury wrote to Mr Hattersley.

Mr Philip Holland, Conservative MP for Carlton and chairman of the Committee of Selection, said last night that both names had been discussed by the committee.

It was found that Mr Alton was already serving on the standing committee examining the British Telecommunications Bill. It was not the custom to put a member on two standing committees at the same time.

Seamen's union to meet employers

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The first move for nearly a month towards a possible settlement of the seamen's dispute came yesterday when talks between the two sides were arranged for tomorrow by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas).

The General Council of British Shipping and the National Union of Seamen will attend talks at the invitation of Acas, chaired by Mr Dennis Boyd, the agency's chief negotiator. Provision has been made for the talks to last at least two days.

The peace move came a few hours before Mr Adrian Swire, president of the shipping council, gave a gloomy warning of the trading effects of the dispute and said that the British shipping industry was now at a watershed. The industry could either consolidate its competitive position or "go fast downhill", he said.

Mr Swire told a dinner of the council's North-east district in Newcastle upon Tyne that when the strike was over there would be far fewer British ships and far fewer orders for new ships. "Far more British ships will be sold to foreign owners and the resultant position of the NUS members will be infinitely worse than it was before the strike started."

Mr Swire told a press conference in Newcastle that the union had consistently refused to ballot their members on the council's 12 per cent pay offer and added: "We believe the reason that they have refused is that they could lose. The men are being misled."

Although Acas has maintained informal contact between the two sides since the beginning of the dispute, which has led to the halting of about 200 ships in ports across the world, this weekend's talks will be the first since negotiations collapsed on January 10.

It was assumed in Whitehall yesterday that Mr Boyd had formed the impression that there might be some room for a compromise.

The Acas move came the day after Townsend Thoresen settled with the NUS, freeing the two ferries halted at Southampton. The NUS maintains that the deal was equivalent to a 14.3 per cent increase but the council declared that it was firmly in line with its own 12 per cent guidelines.

The NUS continued to make clear yesterday that it was seeking from the council significant further movement towards its claim for overtime payments at a rate of time and a half.

Mr Swire said yesterday that the council would certainly be going to the talks and added: "Maybe the logjam has broken a bit."

Lamb imports lost: Supplies of New Zealand lamb have been reduced sharply by the seamen's strike, FMC the largest meat company in Europe, said yesterday

It predicted that imports would be cut by between 16,000 and 20,000 tonnes in the first two months of this year

Cost of EEC food tax 'to reach £2m'

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

Food importers said yesterday that the weekly cost to British shoppers of the EEC tax on food would exceed £2m for the first time next week. The United Kingdom Provision Trade Federation said that a cut in the tax would soon be reflected in price cuts on such foods as butter, bacon, ham and lard.

It added: "The rapid increase in the value of the pound has highlighted one of the absurdities of the common agricultural policy system." The tax on food accounted for an increasing fraction of the prices of imported foods.

The increase next week would mean that the tax would account for almost 15p in the price of every pound of butter, which [illegible] for a minimum of about [illegible] pound. About half of the [illegible] eaten in Britain is imported.

The [illegible]ration said that the tax would also represent 11½p in the price of a pound of Cheddar cheese. Tax rates for bacon and tinned ham would be 8p and 15½p respectively. "Surely it is not beyond the wit of those concerned to agree quickly to elimination of the excesses", it said.

Farmers' plea: Farmers yesterday called for tax relief on subsidies paid last year in a campaign to reduce the EEC butter mountain.

The payments, worth about £400 a cow in Britain, were made to owners of dairy herds who agreed to stop selling milk. The claim appeared in a long list [illegible] made by the National Farmers' Union to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Print unions reject 'Times' proposals by Mr Murdoch

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Trade union opposition to Mr Rupert Murdoch's terms for taking over the Times Newspapers grew yesterday when leaders of the two main printing unions formally rejected redundancy proposals.

The national council of the National Graphical Association, the craft union, unanimously insisted that they would not accept compulsory redundancies. Nor would they acede to News International's suggestion of a 12-month pay freeze.

The executive council of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel (Natsopa) also rejected the scale and method of reducing the labour force. Natsopa leaders joined the NGA in demanding that the printing of the three weekly supplements should be retained at Gray's Inn Road.

Mr George Jerrom, national officer of the NGA said: "We will continue to make what progress we can. We hope the company will see the value of what we are saying and moderate their position in order that the titles can be kept going."

Hopes of a breakthrough in the negotiations with Mr Murdoch's management now rest on a meeting between News International and the newspaper union general secretaries on Monday, when the central issues of redundancies, pay and a disputes procedure guaranteeing continuous production will be discussed.

Leaders of the NGA, Natsopa and the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades meet this afternoon to draw up counter-proposals on a disputes procedure that would curb unofficial walkouts, without (in Mr Jerrom's words) "hanging the innocent as well as the guilty". News International has sought so far to introduce "penalty clauses" that would involve loss of pay for workers other than those directly involved in an unofficial dispute.

Mr Owen O'Brien, general secretary of Natsopa, said last night: "Mr Murdoch is a practical man, and he must know as well as I know that the reduction in staff being put forward is completely unacceptable." Cutbacks of up to 50 per cent in some areas have been proposed, with the company reserving its right to impose redundancies where there were insufficient volunteers.

Drugs raid on Bristol café not botched, policeman says

From Lucy Hodges
Bristol

A police officer told Bristol Crown Court yesterday that he had no regrets about the drink and drugs raid which started the St Paul's riot in Bristol last April. He said the raid had been worth it.

Detective Sergeant Kelvin Hattersley, of the drugs squad, was being crossexamined on the third day of the trial of 12 people charged with riotous assembly. They have pleaded not guilty.

Mr Hattersley was asked by Mr Edward Rees, a defence counsel, whether he thought the discovery of three quarters of a pound of cannabis in the Black and White Café, which resulted in the arrest of one man, who received a suspended prison sentence, had justified the raid. The ensuing riot led to £250,000 of damage, Mr Rees said.

Sergeant Hattersley replied "Yes", Sergeant Hattersley replied. "The raid was worth it." Mr Rees asked: "You are not a fool, are you?" The officer replied: "No, sir."

"In the end, this raid was completely botched, was it not?" Mr Rees asked. "No, it went off as planned", the officer replied.

He agreed, however, that it was the squad, dressed in plain clothes, who more than anyone else caused the trouble initially. Until they were seen leaving the café there had been only a bit of jostling while the illegal alcohol was being removed.

Other drug squad officers were called as witnesses by the prosecution. They described how a group of about fifty youths started to chase them when they left the café.

Det Constable Jonathan Clarke said that he heard a youth shouting: "He has got the dope". The police officer was kicked many times, he said, as also were the other policemen with him.

Because they found they were cut off, they decided to retrace their steps. They came under a heavy barrage of bricks, tiles and a breeze block as they tried to leave in a police car, he said.

Police Constable Timothy Evans told the court how he drove the car away from the scene under a hail of missiles. The windscreen was smashed, so he was steering with one hand and shielding his face with the other.

As he drove off, a brick which came through the windscreen smashed his watch and cut his hand.

The trial continues today.

More criticism of Bill on attempted crime

By Marcel Berlins
Legal Correspondent

The proposed new law making is a crime to interfere with cars could have "a devastating effect" on community relations, the National Association of Probation Officers told the House of Commons standing committee on the Criminal Attempts Bill yesterday.

The new crime has been put into the Bill partly to replace the much-criticized "sus" law, which the Bill would abolish.

Representatives of the association, however, said in a memorandum that the proposed interference offence "would virtually require a defendant to prove his innocence, and courts would be required to decide the criminality or otherwise of observed actions capable of several different interpretations, including innocent ones."

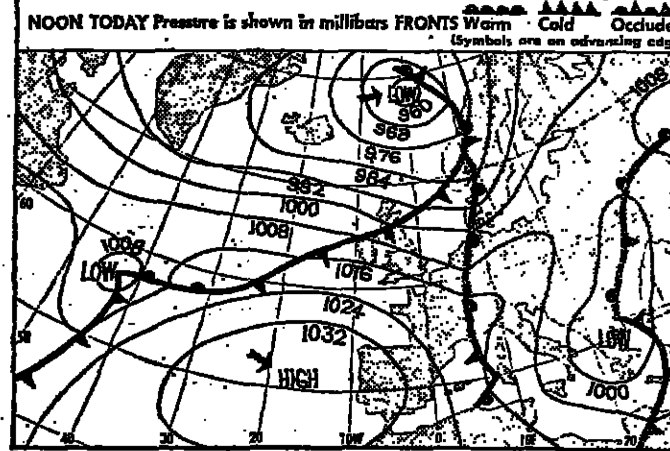
Similar criticism was voiced by Mrs Leah Harvey and Mrs Prendergast, chairman and deputy chairman of the South Central Division, Inner London Magistrates' Court, and Lady Mitchell, a West London Division magistrate.

The National Council for Civil Liberties and the "Scrap Sus" campaign added their weight to the body of criminal opinion.

Another part of the Bill, on attempts to commit "impossible" crimes, came under equally strong attack from two distinguished academic witnesses, Professor Glanville Williams, QC, of Cambridge University, and Professor J. C. Smith, of Nottingham University.

"I think it demonstrable that the Bill, if passed in its present form, will put money into the pockets of lawyers without social recompense, waste the time of the courts and reduce the law to confusion until such time as judical decisions have restored some certainty to it", Professor Glanville Williams said

Weather forecast and recordings



NOON TODAY

b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 7.31 am
Sun sets: 4.59 pm
Moon rises: 8.29 am
Moon sets: 7.2 pm
First Quarter: February 11.

Lighting up: 5.29 pm to 6.59 am. High water: London Bridge, 2.40 am, 7.3m; 3.05 pm, 7.5m. Avonmouth, 8.13 am, 13.6m; 8.34 pm, 13.5m. Dover, 11.49 am, 6.6m; Hull, 7.16 am, 7.4m; 7.26 pm, 7.8m. Liverpool, 12.15 pm, 9.7m. 1ft=0.3048m. 1m=3.2808ft

Pressure is low to the N of Scotland and a frontal trough will move S.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE and Central S England, East Anglia, Midlands: Rather cloudy, mostly dry, a few sunny intervals; wind W, fresh; max temp 11° to 12°C (52° to 54°F).

E, Central N and NE England: Mostly dry at first, a few sunny intervals, occasional rain later; wind W, fresh; max temp 11° to 12°C (52° to 54°F).

Channel Islands, SW and NW England, Wales: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, hill and perhaps coastal fog; wind W, fresh to strong; max temp 10° to 11°C (50° to 52°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Outbreaks of rain, becoming clearer with scattered showers; wind W, strong; max temp 8° to 10°C (46° to 50°F).

Moray Firth, NE and NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals, showers, turning wintry; wind W, strong to gale; max temp 5° to 7°C (41° to 45°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mild and windy with rain in most areas; becoming brighter and less mild on Sunday.

Sea passages: S North Sea: Wind W, strong, perhaps gale later; sea rough or very rough. Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind W, fresh or strong; sea rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind W or NW, strong occasionally gale; sea rough or very rough.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	15	59	Dublin	c	9	48	Locarno	s	9	48	Nice	s	13	55
Algiers	f	15	59	Edinburgh	f	8	46	London	c	8	46	Oslo	f	-2	28
[illegible]															

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10°C (50°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3°C (37°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 76 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 0.1hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,013 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Overseas selling prices
Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahr... RD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canari... Pes 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denma... Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland M... 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.0...; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 3.50; Ir... IR 135; Iraq ID 0.300; Irish Repub... 20p; Italy L 1100; Jordan LD 0.4...; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon Ll 4.0...; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc ...; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 6.00; Norw... Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakist... Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qat... QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 3...; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 100; Swed... Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syr... LS 5.50; Tunisia Din .450; US ...; Canada $1.60; UAE Dir 7.0...; Yugoslavia Din 40.

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Tighter regulations agreed for airport

Strict regulations to control flying and other activities at Blackbushe airport, Hampshire, have been agreed. The agreement, between Mr Douglas Arnold, the airport owner, and Hampshire County Council, is designed to control the use of the airport, which has been operated without planning restrictions.

Noise levels and weight restrictions will be imposed on aircraft and the hours of flying will be restricted. Only certain types of executive jets will be permitted.

Flight patterns will be curtailed and flying over certain built-up areas prohibited to protect those living near the airport. No runway extensions will be allowed and there are additional restrictions on the use of the two north-south runways.

The council also wants an end to unauthorized buildings and uses, including caravan sales, drag racing and go-karting.

In exchange for the agreement, the council has granted planning permission for new hangars and improvements to the airfield and to the Sunday market, which is to be restricted to between 8am and 2pm. There will be no Wednesday market.

The council will no longer be bound to buy the airport under a long-standing notice, and proceedings in the lands tribunal are being withdrawn.

هكذا من الأصل

How we turned a simple, efficient car into a simpler, more efficient van.

1. Shallow flat-topped wheel arches
2. Extended side windows for better visibility
3. Simple beam axle and leaf springs replace independent rear suspension
4. Excellent accessibility to engine for easy maintenance
5. Choice of three high-efficiency engines
6. Latest technology applied to anti-corrosion treatment
7. More powerful brakes
8. Wheel base lengthened by four inches
9. Slam lock gives extra security

This is the long-awaited new Escort van, that's even better than its predecessor.

As you'd expect it owes much to the technology that went into the new Escort saloon.

But it is, in fact, a very different animal. A purpose-built van.

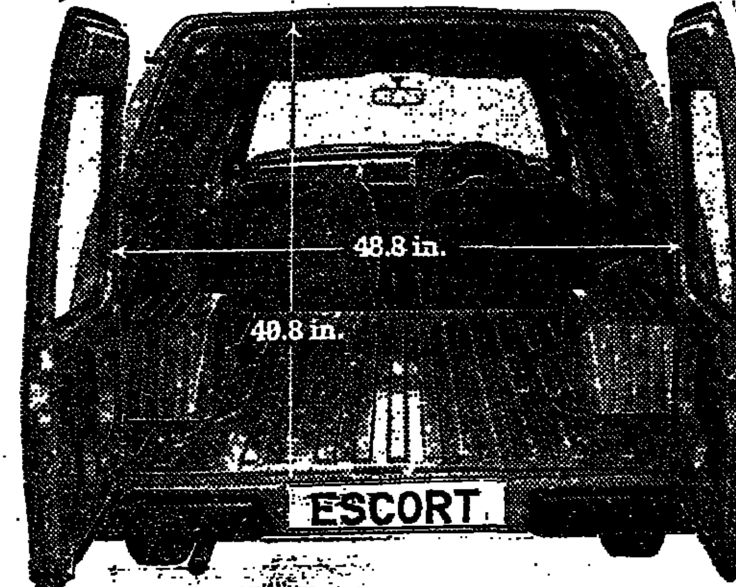
Since its sole objective in life is to make money for its owner, the engineers made everything as simple and functional as possible, which not only enhances its reliability but also keeps running costs to a minimum.

Little big van – the vital statistics.

	Ford Escort 55	Leyland Marina 575	Vauxhall Chevanne
Max. load volume (behind seats) (cu. ft.)†	94.0	88.0	††
Max. load floor length (ins.)	72.0	72.8	62.4
Max. load space height (ins.)	40.8	39.1	31.6
Max. load space width (ins.)	59.0	57.5	50.0
Payload incl. driver* – (lbs)	1620	1296	1102
– (kilos)	735	588	500

*Subject to production tolerances. †SAE method. ††Not published.

The Escort equals or beats its closest competitors in most of the vital areas in the chart, which makes it just a shade more efficient as a load carrier.



Not only that but its back doors are wider and higher than its rivals. And its floor is lower. So it's just a bit easier to load and unload. Incidentally, the doors have a slam lock, so the driver can't forget to lock them while he has his elevenses.

And, as you can see, the wheel arches intrude very little into the cargo area. They're both shallow and flat-topped.

Note also the tough steel floor.

The Escort van is available in two payload versions – the 35 and the 55.

High efficiency engines. Heavy duty transmission.

You have a choice of 1.1, 1.3 or 1.6 litre engines.

The 1.1 is derived from the proven and economical Fiesta unit with variable venturi carburettor.

And the 1.3 and 1.6 engines are the entirely new, fuel-efficient Escort units with features like breakerless ignition and hydraulic tappets to reduce maintenance costs.

They go 12000 miles between standard services with only an interim service at 6000 miles. The gearbox can be removed without taking out the engine and Ford parts are competitively priced.

The drive train and brakes are designed to cope with stop go conditions while heavily loaded. And the front wheel drive owes much to experience gained from the Fiesta, so reliability is built-in.

Simplicity pays.

At the back, the independent rear suspension of the car has been replaced by a beam axle and leaf springs.

Although less advanced, this system is better for a van because it gives superior handling with half a ton in the back. And intrudes less into the load space. It's also very simple to maintain.

Incidentally, the wheel base is four inches longer than the car's, which improves weight distribution and increases the load capacity.

A nice place to work.

The cab features the same dash and heating system as the car.

But the seats are upholstered in tough vinyl which is extremely durable.

The additional side windows give much improved visibility for parking.

If you want extra comfort you can order an 'L' version of the van with cloth seats, carpet, centre face level vents, cigar lighter, door bins and intermittent wipe.

You can see the new Escort vans at your Ford dealer now. He'll be pleased to give you more information, plus details of Fleet Leasing and Contract Hire facilities.

The new Ford Escort van.

Illustrated is the Escort L van.



HOME NEWS

Way found for hospital patients to question a clinical judgment

By Nicholas Timmins

The British Medical Association yesterday gave overwhelming approval to a new procedure to allow patients to bring complaints about a hospital doctor's clinical judgment.

The procedure has been described by the Association of Community Health Councils as "a kind of Star Chamber arrangement".

A London teaching hospital consultant has called it "a charter to protect the doctor", while the executive of the Hospital Consultants and Specialists Association, which represents 4,000 of the 13,000 consultants, has suggested that a lay man be involved and gave warning that unless the procedure is seen to be fair by both doctors and patients there will be trouble.

The BMA's hospital doctors committee approved the procedure by 45 votes to 2. The votes against came from a regional committee that felt the procedure was unnecessary. It will now go to the Department of Health, where it is expected to be incorporated in a circular being prepared about patients' complaints generally.

Mr David Bolt, chairman of the Central Committee for Hospital Medical Services, said yesterday that the procedure was as far as the profession was prepared to go at present.

It would meet the most virulent complaint from patients, that no one will tell them anything when they try to complain. Patients are guaranteed access to the consultant in charge of their case.

The procedure is intended to deal with complaints where there is no suggestion that a doctor has been negligent but where the patient is dissatisfied with the outcome of treatment. Cases in which a patient sought damages would still be handled through the medical defence societies, and if necessary, the courts.

Under the procedure, the patient would first complain to the consultant in charge of his case. If he was not satisfied with the explanation, his complaint would be put in writing and the regional medical officer would be informed. If his advice did not lead to satisfaction, the RMO, where he thinks it appropriate, would refer the case to two independent consultants.

They would discuss the case with the consultant and the patient, attempt to satisfy the patient if they felt clinical judgment had been exercised responsibly, and make a confidential report to the RMO.

If they felt there had been difficulties they would discuss them with the hospital staff and explain it to patient, as far as appropriate, how it was hoped to prevent recurrences. The patient would not be given a detailed report, but the local district administrator would write to him setting out any action taken, taking the RMO's advice on what would be appropriate comment on the clinical matters involved.

Mr Bolt said yesterday that he took the point that dissatisfied patients might still feel there had been a cover-up. The profession could not agree, however, to having a layman sit in judgment on them on entirely technical matters.

If the procedure became public, doctors would be forced into practising defensive medicine to ensure that they could not be found at fault. The cost would be enormous and would "bring the health service down around our ears".

Bill aims at easy access for disabled people

By Our Political Staff

A Bill to improve the access of disabled people to public buildings, introduced in the Commons by Mr Dafydd Wigley, Plaid Cymru MP for Caernarfon, was published yesterday. It has all-party support and comes up for second reading on February 13, being third in the list of private member's Bills to be considered that day.

It would ensure that developers of buildings to which the public have access, when they are notified of consents, would have their attention drawn to the requirements of the British Standards code of practice for access for disabled people to public buildings defined in the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, 1970.

The Bill would also make new provisions for the needs of disabled people, particularly the blind, to be taken into account when local authorities undertake work on pavements and highways.

A Commons motion asking the Government to support the Bill has been signed by more than 50 MPs.

Mr John Grant, MP for Islington, Central, and Opposition spokesman on employment, told members of the Woolwich Labour Party last night that the disabled were always disproportionately affected when unemployment was high.

He said that on January 13 Mrs Margaret Thatcher told the Commons that "we do not intend to cut services for the disabled". Those were her exact words, he said, and she went on to call for more voluntary effort from disabled people to help themselves.

That was her customary style of passing the buck, Mr Grant said. "What she said about cuts was a quite disgraceful lie which could only have been calculated to mislead

"It is utterly unbelievable that she was unaware of what was going on. Indeed, disabled people's organizations have protested openly to her.

"Let her talk to any local authority social services department and hear of the struggle they are having to try to safeguard services for the disabled, often unsuccessfully."

Since the general election, Mr Grant said, a quarter more disabled people were out of work and job placings for the disabled had dropped by half.

The Manpower Services Commission's budget and staff had been viciously slashed. It had been forced to consider saving more staff to meet the Government's targets by scrapping its *employment rehabilitation work,* though that appalling prospect had so far been avoided.

"All this is happening in the name of government economies, and no junketing at 10 Downing Street with disabled people's representatives can disguise the fact", he said. "It is the Government, not the hard-pressed commission, that must *be placed in the dock.*"

Photograph by Harry Kerr

Lord Geoffrey-Lloyd (with dog), chairman of the trustees of Leeds Castle, near Maidstone, Kent, escorting representatives of disability societies who were advising yesterday on making castle tours easier for the disabled.

New dispute over status of Cambridge lecturer

By Paul Flather of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*

A decision not to upgrade an assistant lecturer in social psychology has led to a second dispute at Cambridge University and exposed the unofficial status of social and political science teaching at the university.

The university has rejected an application and two appeals from Dr David Ingleby, an assistant lecturer and fellow of Darwin College, for upgrading to a permanent post. The university's English faculty is in disarray after Dr Colin MacCabe, an assistant lecturer in English, was not upgraded.

Dr Ingleby has claimed there were serious breaches of academic justice in the procedures used to review his case. He said the appointments committee had not included academics in social psychology, and one of his internal assessors was a man known to be hostile to his work.

The case has drawn attention to the status of the Social and Political Science Committee, set up in 1969 as an interim step towards a new social and political science faculty. All progress since then has been blocked and the 12 social and political science dons wonder how seriously the university takes their work.

Without faculty status the committee has weak representation within the university hierarchy.

The weak position of social and political science lecturers has undermined the appeals of Dr Ingleby, who has received the support of all his colleagues, about 90 students and a wide range of academics, including Professor Charles Taylor, of All Souls College, Oxford.

GLC complains to auditor over Lambeth

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Greater London Council is to complain to the district auditor about the alleged misspending of Lambeth ratepayers' money on "misleading political documents".

Mr Richard Brew, deputy leader of the council, which is Lambeth's largest ratepayer, said yesterday that he had instructed officials to make the complaint.

Mr Brew, leader of the GLC policy and resources committee, said the documents failed to give an accurate picture of why Lambeth was asking its ratepayers to pay such exorbitant sums of money.

Lambeth council explained that the immediate reason for the supplementary 20p rate was that "through no fault of its own" it faced £11.2m overspending in the present financial year.

Mr Brew said that the GLC, like all Lambeth ratepayers, was entitled to receive basic financial information in a form that was "not blatantly party political or misleading".

The GLC's bill for Lambeth's supplementary rate is £975,262, and its total rates bill for the year will be £7,992,272.

Mr Brew pointed out that that figure compared with about £4,500,000 that would have been the bill if the GLC's properties happened to be situated over the boundary in Conservative-controlled Wandsworth instead of in "the Marxist people's republic of Lambeth".

Safeguards on data banks under study

By a Staff Reporter

The storing of information in computers in Britain and the protection of the public are being examined by the Government as a matter of urgency, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, said yesterday.

During the committee stage of the British Telecommunications Bill he said there was great anxiety among operators of data banks in Britain that countries with protection laws might prevent information coming to places like Britain that did not have such laws.

There was a very strong commercial reason for dealing with the matter and the Government was considering it and the whole question of public protection as a matter of urgency.

Mr Baker's comments, the first statement of government intention on data protection for many months, were made in response to an appeal by Mr Ian Mikardo, Labour MP for Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow, for protection for individuals against computer data banks.

Mr Mikardo told the Commons that such banks were of concern and a source of danger, and Britain should bring in laws of protection in line with other EEC countries

He called for safeguards to ensure that: the public would know about data banks being used; the information was obtained lawfully, was accurate and under a time limit; the banks be limited in purpose and access to the data limited to authorized people; individuals would have a right of access and not be identified in general statistics.

Computer companies, the medical profession and civil libertarians have been urging the Government to take action.

Yesterday Miss Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties, said: "It is not good enough for the Government to say it is considering this as a matter of urgency. The time is long overdue for legislation and there is no lack of proposals. All that is lacking is the political will."

Idle hands turn to broken bricks in jobless mill towns

Racialism blamed on the recession

From John Chartres
Oldham

Oldham, with 20,000 members of ethnic minorities among its population of 224,000, an unemployment rate of 11 per cent, large tracts of derelict land, substandard housing and disused factories and mills, gave a cautious welcome to the news that Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, had agreed to a study of racialist tensions in Britain.

Mr Keith Bradford, community relations officer for the Oldham Council for Racial Equality, an independent body, welcomed particularly the news that special police units would be considered to monitor racialist attacks.

"I think the idea of special police units is excellent", he said. "We have porn squads and vice squads and drink-driving squads, so why should we not have racialist violence squads?"

Mr Bradford said he hoped that the initiative begun at a meeting on Wednesday between Mr Whitelaw and a delegation from the Joint Committee against Recialism would produce results.

There were 20 cases of violent attacks and vandalism directed specifically against the immigrant community in Oldham last year, compared with six in each of the three previous years. The 20 cases included stoning of young people in the streets, burning of garden gates, daubing of slogans on walls, throwing petrol bombs and attacks on Bengali temples and the offices of the local Bangladesh Association.

Two cases have been reported so far this year, both assaults on people of Pakistani origin.

Mr Bradford said he thought that some of the incidents could be attributed to orchestrated action by political groups, but many arose because a large number of young people in the town were without work or any source of constructive activity. They threw stones at people with coloured skins and daubed swastikas and such letters as "NF" on walls, without necessarily belonging to a political movement.

Insufficient credit was given to the police for their work in combating such crimes, Mr Bradford said. Many culprits had been arrested and brought before the courts;

Some of the lack of confidence in the police of the ethnic minority community was caused by a communications difficulty which his organization was trying to resolve, he said.

The report by the Joint Committee against Racialism, which singled out Oldham for special attention, said that similar, possibly worse, incidents had occurred in parts of the city of Manchester and such towns as Preston, Blackburn and Dewsbury, all suffering acutely from the recession.

In Oldham and its surrounding mill towns unemployment has affected the immigrants as hard as the rest of the population.

A high proportion of immigrant workers in the old cotton towns have for many years been predominantly employed on night shifts, which were among the first jobs to disappear in the now almost non-existent Lancashire textile industry.

Towns such as Oldham have also suffered from acute industrial and housing dereliction. The local council estimated that it needed £3m to demolish or repair 140 derelict cotton mills.

Looking out of his office window yesterday, Mr Bradford said: "I can see piles of brick and rubble from here. Where there are broken bricks lying around you can be pretty sure that there will soon be people ready to pick them up and throw them at somebody."

Study appeal: Mr Raymond Whitney, Conservative MP for Wycombe, has asked Mr Whitelaw to include in the study those individuals and organizations "who seek to generate discontent and fear within the ethnic minority groups for their own political purposes".

IBA agrees changes in the ATV franchise

By Kenneth Gosling

New arrangements under which ATV will continue to hold the Midlands television franchise were accepted by the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) yesterday.

The company was given until the end of January to meet six conditions imposed by the authority. They include the restructuring of ATV into two area boards to cover the new contract area of east and west Midlands and offering 49 per cent of the company's shares to outsiders, especially Midlands investors. They will have two representatives on the main board.

The company's detailed proposals include the nomination of Lord Windlesham as managing director of the restructured company, and a separate chairman of the main board unconnected with ATV or its parent company, Associated Communications Corporation.

The west and east Midlands boards will also have chairmen having no connexion with either ATV or the corporation.

When the 49 per cent share offer is made, consideration will be given to supporters of the unsuccessful consortia who bid for the franchise, Midlands and Mercia.

Eight new regional directors will have no previous connexion with ATV and in time the main board will consider finding a new name for the company. It will also consider creating an educational and arts trust. A new television centre will be built in the East Midlands and seven senior programme staff appointed.

Further discussion about the full implementation of the proposals is to take place, the IBA said last night.

"Panorama" talks: Sir Ian Trethowan, director-general of the BBC, has agreed to meet next Tuesday the secretaries of two unions with members in broadcasting to discuss the issues raised by the proposed *Panorama* television programme on the security services.

Mr Anthony Hearn, of the Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs, and Mr Kenneth Ashton, of the National Union of Journalists, will express their members' disquiet over claims that cuts were made on Sir Ian's orders.

River jobs plan condemned

Britain's farmworkers reacted angrily yesterday to a proposal that members laid off or made redundant should be used by water boards to maintain river and drainage systems. The plan, put forward by the Country Landowners' Association, is being discussed with water authorities.

Captain Harry Birbeck, chairman of the Internal Drainage Board in Norfolk, said boards were partly dependent on farmers to maintain rivers flowing through their land.

The plan has been condemned by the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, which represents not only many of Britain's 250,000 farmworkers but also many of the men in the water and drainage industry.

A spokesman said: "The idea that farmworkers have nothing to do in the winter is absolute fiction."

Training scheme for young blacks

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Bristol is among six places listed in proposals put to the Manpower Services Commission and the Commission for Racial Equality this week for expansion of a pioneer training scheme for young blacks and Asians.

Under the scheme they are taught how to use keyboards for typing, telex, word processing and data preparation. The company running the scheme is part of Key Holdings Ltd, a group operating in 17 countries.

Miss Denise Abbott, youth employment officer at the Commission for Racial Equality, said it was concerned at indications that the Government was planning no provision to take account of the disadvantage experienced by young blacks when looking for work.

But it was encouraging that the kind of measures recommended by the Commission were being implemented independently using existing provisions.

Mr Christopher Mayhew, the former Labour minister, who is advising Key Holdings on its scheme, said: "This is for 16, 17 and 18-year-olds. It is giving priority to the ethnic minority It is not exclusive; white trainees can join.

"We are planning to bring these centres where there is the greatest amount of unemployment among black youngsters. We know that, as between two youngsters of equal keenness, equal skill and equal attractiveness, the black youngster will not get the job as easily as the white youngster.

Describing a pilot scheme at Acton, west London, as a success, Mr Mayhew said that Key Holdings was proposing six similar centres at Bristol, Smethwick, Leicester, Bradford, somewhere in the North-west, probably Manchester, and in the Lewisham-Catford area of London.

The advantage of the scheme for the unemployed is that aptitude for the job is what matters, not paper qualifications, and the demand for skills taught will increase with the growth in high technology, office techniques and communication.

£35,000 bid fails to buy gold throne and stool

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A golden throne and footstool made in the second quarter of the nineteenth century failed to find a buyer at Southeby's Belgravia yesterday and was bought in at £36,000. That implies that there was a genuine bidder prepared to spend £35,000 on seating himself in such regal luxury; the bidding started at £10,000.

Some mystery attaches to the pieces. Stylistically they clearly come from an Indian palace, but there were any number of maharajahs who might have wanted a somewhat Europeanized chair covered with gold, with lion finials, to boost their egos. Sotheby's say they have attempted to research its origin but failed.

The piece was consigned to them by a dealer acting as the agent of the present owner, who, they have been assured, bought the throne in Britain.

There have been several disputes over art works smuggled out of India in recent years, but Sotheby's say they have had no inquiries from the Indian Government on this piece. Although the throne and footstool are gloriously flashy items, it is the gold sheeting with which they are covered that really counts.

The gold covering the two pieces is reputed to weigh more than 7,000 grams, hence the estimate of £50,000-£80,000 put on the piece by Sotheby's.

The sale of oriental works of art also contained a late-nineteenth-century massive Indian silver salver (8,507 grams) at £5,000 (estimate £5,000-£7,000) and a massive urn and cover of similar date (7,238 grams), which was unsold at £2,100 (estimate £3,000-£4,000).

The sale in general proved unpredictable; there was little demand for furniture, but strong competition for *famille rose* and Canton ceramics. The sale totalled £91,285, with 46 per cent unsold, mainly accounted for by the throne.

A sale of important English, continental and American silver held by Christie's in New York on Wednesday underlined the fact that for rarities the slippage in bullion prices is of little importance. The sale totalled £171,950, with only 3 per cent unsold; English buyers secured a large proportion of the most important pieces.

The top price was $60,000 (estimate $30,000 to $40,000) for a fine silver ewer made in London in 1674 and engraved with the contemporary arms of Charles Salusbury of Bachymbydd, co Denbigh, and his wife, Elizabeth. The London dealer, Koopman, carried off a silver wine cup made in 1634, at $56,000 or £23,333, despite its historical importance to Americans.

Bail for doctor on charge of murdering baby

Dr Leonard John Henry Archer Arthur, aged 54, was remanded on bail at Derby Magistrates' Court yesterday until March 5 charged with the murder of John Pearson, aged three days, contrary to common law.

Mrs Daphne Thorpe, chairman, gave Dr Arthur bail, provided he surrendered his passport, reported any change of address, did not discuss the case with doctors likely to be witnesses for the prosecution and did not visit Derby City Hospital or Women's Hospital.

Dr Arthur's home address was given as Royal Oak Cottage, Church Boughton, Derbyshire.

Smokers put others at risk

Fresh evidence that smokers can give lung cancer to non-smokers was presented to the Royal College of Physicians in London yesterday at a conference held to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Action on Smoking and Health.

Professor Sir Richard Doll, director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's epidemiology unit in Oxford, told the conference that studies in Athens had confirmed recent research in Japan showing that non-smoking wives of husbands who smoked ran a higher risk of lung cancer than women married to non-smoking husbands.

Government to abolish 30 powers of entry and inspection

By Frances Gibb

The Government is to abolish 30 powers of inspection and rights of entry into businesses and land by government officials and to modify 63 other powers after a review ordered by the Prime Minister.

The proposals, put forward by ministers, were announced yesterday by Mr John MacGregor, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Industry.

Most of them will be carried out in the course of departmental legislation, he said, adding: "I am satisfied that the remaining powers are necessary; are sufficiently circumscribed and contain adequate safeguards to ensure that they do not cause an unwarranted intrusion into business premises."

The review was set up in December, 1979, after mounting concern at the growing number of powers of entry possessed by government officials to ensure compliance with legislation.

That concern culminated in a report, *An Inspector at the Door*, in October, 1979, by the National Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses, which identified more than 200 kinds of inspector with as many as 250 powers of entry into businesses and homes.

It said that an Englishman's home was no longer his castle because his property and privacy were at the mercy of an estimated 100,000 "faceless men" with legal powers of intrusion.

Mr MacGregor added that the Government would examine the possibility of introducing more uniformity into the safeguards, possibly in the form of a code of practice, in the light of the findings of the committee now investigating the search and entry powers of Inland Revenue officials under Lord Keith of Kinkel.

Arrangements are also being made, he said, to scrutinize all future legislation containing powers of entry to ensure they do not impose an undue burden on businesses.

Yesterday Mr David Dexter, chairman of the self-employed federation, said: "We are delighted to see the announcement that the door has been closed on 30 different types of government snoopers."

The federation would continue to examine the powers remaining on the statute book and where necessary put forward arguments for their abolition. "The growth in the powers of inspectors has constituted a very real encroachment on the freedom of the individual and it has acted as a real deterrent to small business."

But the federation expressed concern at the likely delay before the Government considered a code of practice. Mr John Blundell, a federation official, said the Keith committee was not due to report until 1983. "That will probably be too late for the 1983 Finance Bill, so we cannot expect any change until 1984."

The powers of entry to be abolished span a wide range of departments, including those of employment, energy, and environment, and the Scottish Office and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

They include the power of transport officials to enter land to extinguish fires caused by locomotives under the Railway Fires Act, 1905.

Embassy siege PC tells of ploy used to keep gun hidden

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

After four days of the Iranian Embassy siege Police Constable Trevor Lock felt he could no longer refuse offers by his Arab captors to wash himself without arousing suspicion. In an effort to keep his pistol hidden he had kept on his coat, tunic jacket and two pullovers.

At the wash basin he waited until the gunman with him had gone, peeled off his coat and jacket and hurriedly began to wash. His holster made a telltale bulge under the pullovers.

Then the gunman returned, he told a press conference at Scotland Yard yesterday. PC Lock showed how he bent over the basin trying to conceal the bulge, but the gunman stepped forward.

To his great relief the terrorist offered him a tube of toothpaste. He thanked the man and took the tube.

Yesterday PC Lock, who was praised by a judge at the Central Criminal Court after the trial of the survivor of the six terrorists in the siege, described for the first time some of the incidents during the siege, and his feelings.

He said of the rescue by the Special Air Service Regiment: "I am grateful for what the SAS did. If it was not for them I would not be here, and I know that for a fact."

PC Lock, who has six children, said he felt that his wife, had suffered more than he because she did not know what was happening in the embassy.

A thickset man with an east London accent, PC Lock had been based in Barking for his entire police career until January, 1980, when he joined the diplomatic protection group.

When the terrorists struck on April 30 last he had arranged to take advantage of his new work in central London to give his wife an evening out.

They planned to visit Harrods and PC Lock intended to surprise her later with a meal and seats at a West End musical.

As it was, PC Lock said yesterday, they have not yet been to Harrods, and by the time the six-day siege had ended the show had closed.

He began duty early that morning at the Iranian Embassy and had gone inside for coffee. He said: "I believe that coffee saved my life. During the siege I asked Faisal (the second in command) if his approach to the embassy would have been any different if I had been standing outside. He said, 'Don't ask me, as you are now my friend'. If I had been standing outside I would not be here today".

PC Lock said he was going outside when the terrorists arrived. As they took over the embassy he told them, "Take it easy, don't hurt anyone", and repeated the advice throughout the siege.

He was searched but the terrorist was shaking with nervousness or excitement and did not find the gun. Later only four of the hostages knew he was carrying it and although it was suggested he might give it up as a sign of good intent, he decided against that because he felt there might be retribution or it would simply add to the terrorists' arsenal.

He felt his gun was a token compared with the terrorists' weapons.



PC Trevor Lock with his wife at Scotland Yard yesterday. Photograph by Bill Warhurst

During the siege he built relationships with the hostages and the terrorists. Mr Fowzi Nejad, the surviving terrorist, told the police after the siege that the policeman was an excellent man.

"I developed this image with the hostages", PC Lock said, "that if I was all right, they were all right . . . it developed a link with the terrorists because they thought I was doing it for the good of the hostages. They accepted this as being my discipline".

Asked if they thought him eccentric because of his not washing, he replied: "Not eccentric, more likely that I was a dirty British policeman".

At the end of the siege he drew his gun against the terrorist leader but did not fire.

"I do not think I could have had it on my conscience. I do not believe in armed policemen generally, but there are duties where they have to be".

Overall, he said, "I handled the situation as I saw fit. I was unaware of being brave. I have no illusions. I am 40 years of age and have 15 years' experience. Anyone with those qualifications would have handled it the same".

PC Lock and his wife have found great differences in their lives. He said: "Before the siege I used to be able to stop being a policeman and came back to a private world. We no longer have that privacy. Everywhere we go I am 'Trevor the policeman'. In the supermarket you see people nudging each other. On Underground trains I get offered newspapers to autograph."

PC Lock is still with the protection group, but is involved in administration and training.

Sutcliffe case criticism 'unfair'

By Our Crime Reporter

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, went "far beyond the bounds of fairness" in attacking the police for their part in the publicity surrounding the arrest of Mr Peter Sutcliffe in Yorkshire, the latest edition of *Police* magazine says.

The magazine is published by the Police Federation, which represents lower ranks in England and Wales. It says Lord Hailsham told the Lords during a debate on reform of the law on contempt: "If editors are provoked by policemen to break the law I know whom to blame."

But, the magazine says, the West Yorkshire police could not avoid a press conference after an investigation lasting five years and arousing considerable interest. The alternative "would have been equally, perhaps worse, damaging speculation and rumour".

The blame for the coverage by newspapers lay not at the press conference but in Fleet Street's editorial chairs. Almost the entire British press had taken leave of its senses, and the next day "respect for the presumption of innocence was notable by its absence".

The magazine says that in attacking the police Lord Hailsham, Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, and Sir Ian Percival, QC, the Solicitor General, had indulged in overkill.

In fact, the police have taken to heart the rebukes from the law officers after the arrest. Details of the arrest last month of Mr Charles Richardson, the former London gang leader who escaped from prison, were not released by Scotland Yard in case there might be a breach of the contempt law.

It has also been suggested that PC Trevor Lock, one of the hostages during the Iranian Embassy siege, was not allowed to talk to the press until the trial of the surviving terrorist and the inquest into his dead colleagues was completed this week.

Journalists seek support for information Bill

By a Staff Reporter

A last-minute effort to muster support for the private member's Freedom of Information Bill to be debated by the Commons today was made yesterday by the National Union of Journalists.

Mr Francis Beckett, president of the union, wrote to the 21 MPs on both sides of the House who are members of the NUJ, urging them to support the Bill, which the Government hopes to kill by mobilizing its "payroll vote" of ministers and their parliamentary private secretaries.

MP fears big reductions in British Rail services

By Our Parliamentary Staff

The fear that British Rail may be faced with a plan for large reductions in its main services was raised by a Labour MP in the Commons standing committee on the Transport Bill yesterday.

The Bill paves the way for the sale of British Rail subsidiaries, such as Sealink and the railway hotels, to the private sector. Labour MPs pressed the Government to accept an amendment ensuring that the railways board retained a majority shareholding

Mr Barry Sheerman, Labour MP for Huddersfield, East, said he was sure there were plans in readiness for a fundamental cutting back of British Rail's main services after the sale of profitable subsidiary businesses.

The amendment was still under discussion when the committee adjourned

"Slippery slope": Increased fares and reduced services could lead to British Rail going down the same slippery slope as the Post Office, Mr James Towler, chairman of the Yorkshire Area Transport Users' Consultative Committee, says in its report published yesterday (Ronald Kershaw writes).

"People would probably desert British Rail in their thousands

Prosecution witness sent to prison

From Our Correspondent
Cambridge

A hunt saboteur who went to Cambridge Crown Court as the chief prosecution witness ended in jail.

Mr Trevor Scott, aged 22, was called to give evidence against two members of a hare coursing club accused of assaulting anti-hunt demonstrators.

Mr Scott, of East Gate, Louth, Lincolnshire, an executive member of the Hunt Saboteurs' Association, was called before Judge Wild at the end of the case on Wednesday and asked if he would agree to be bound over to keep the peace for two years. He refused and the judge sent him to jail for seven days.

The case arose from a series of incidents at a coursing meeting in Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambridgeshire, in October, when hunt saboteurs chased away hares before they could be coursed. Coursers chased the hunt saboteurs and there were scuffles and fights.

Kenneth Alsop, aged 52, of Haddenham, Cambridgeshire, and Thomas Day, aged 48, of Watford, Hertfordshire, were accused of assaulting saboteurs, but Judge Wild discharged the jury from entering a verdict in their cases and instead entered formal not guilty verdicts on two charges of assault against Mr Day.

He accepted Mr Alsop's plea of guilty to common assault on Mr Scott, instead of a charge of causing actual bodily harm. Mr Alsop agreed to be bound over for a year in the sum of £50.

Mr Scott and Mark Dyer, a fellow saboteur and Oxford University undergraduate were called before the judge and told that they had broken the spirit of the law by their conduct. They were asked if they agreed to be bound over.

Mr Dyer agreed, saying: "I would like to protest but it would ruin my academic career if I went to prison". Mr Scott refused, saying: "It is only right, as a British citizen, that I should be arrested, charged and brought before a court before I am bound over".

The capsule sets off for Murrayfield

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Twenty-two members of the Taff's Well Rugby Club, in Mid Glamorgan, climbed into a 12-ton time machine last night, programmed to touch down tomorrow outside Murrayfield, where Scotland are to play Wales.

Their machine is a 40ft articulated lorry, and they hope that the travelling time will pass unnoticed, because it has been decorated inside to resemble their clubhouse. The illusion, they claim, will prevent them from becoming homesick as they drink and sing their way across the border.

When the lorry doors have closed, the supporters will help themselves from a self-service bar, and recline in armchairs on a carpeted floor. The interior has been decorated with mirrors and provided with heating and soft lighting, in keeping with the ambiance of the Taff's Well command centre.

The trailer doors cannot be opened from within, so a gravity lavatory has been provided behind a screen; in case of emergency an alarm connects with the driver's cab.

The lorry will drive through the new anti-drink law being enforced for the match by Scottish police. There is nothing in the new legislation to cover supporters going by articulated truck.

Mr Gwyn Davies, the club winger, who supplied the lorry, said: "We are all looking forward to a smooth journey. The driver will take it nice and easy so as not to disturb our celebrations or to spill any drink". Only eight of the group have tickets for the match. With their usual faith, the others confidently expect to acquire them.

Two years ago, when they made a similar journey, the club members overcame the transport drivers' strike by obtaining special dispensation from the Transport and General Workers' Union for "the emergency transportation of livestock".

Cyclists advised not to use narrow saddles

By Our Medical Correspondent

Cyclists may become sexually impotent from pressure on nerves by the bicycle saddle, an American doctor says in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the leading United States weekly journal for doctors.

Dr John D. Goodson, of the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, describes a man who lost sensation in his penis after a 180-mile bicycle ride and became impotent.

The cause was found to be damage to the pudendal nerves from his narrow, hard leather bicycle seat. He was advised to use a wider seat and his symptoms resolved within a month.

Compression of the pudendal nerves is a hazard of cycling that may affect the sexual response in both men and women, Dr Goodson says. Either the seat should be padded or it should be sloped downwards to relieve the risk of damaging pressure.

Schools Council head agrees to extend term

By Our Education Correspondent

Mr John Tomlinson, chairman of the Schools Council, has agreed to the Government's invitation to stay on as chairman until November pending the outcome of the Government's review of the council and its functions. Mr Tomlinson's three-year term of office was due to end next month.

The Government is expected to announce *Mr Tomlinson's decision* at the same time as it announces details of the review and the name of the independent chairman who is to conduct it.

Mr Tomlinson has made clear, however, that he cannot stay on beyond November even if the review is not finished; he has other pressing commitments such as the presidency of the Society of Education Officers, which he takes over next January, as well as his duties as chief education officer for Cheshire.

MP's divorce plea

A divorce petition by Mr Victor Goodhew, aged 61, Conservative MP for St Albans since 1959, appears in the list of undefended cases to be dealt with in London.

More Scottish divorces

Divorces granted by the Court of Sessions in Scotland in 1979 numbered 8,800, compared with 8,500 in the previous year. The figure was more than double the 1969 total.

Waste paper dumped at Department of Industry in protest at lack of recycling

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Three tons of waste paper was dumped on the Department of Industry's doorstep yesterday when members of conservation and environment protection groups presented a six-point plan aimed at revitalizing the waste paper industry to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry.

In addition to calling for a national resource policy for waste paper use, conservationists asked for an end to duty free imports of paper; grants to reduce energy costs to the industry by conservation measures; increased use of recycled products by local authorities; and government departments and a scheme to label paper according to its fibre content.

After the demonstration, the waste was returned to the Full Circle Recycling Co-op, in Chelsea, which is one of three organizations associated with Friends of the Earth in the London area which are collecting material for recycling.

Some of it will be sold to a merchant for pulping. But the rest may have to be thrown away as unsaleable, although it is suitable for conversion into a variety of products.

And it is that growing volume of usable but unsaleable waste throughout the country that is at the centre of the protest.

Mrs Joyce Taylor, an architect, expressed the frustration felt not just by voluntary groups but also by merchants an indusrrial processors, over the "waste paper crisis". About 7.5 million tons of paper products are used a year in Britain, and more than five million tons of that should come from recycling, saving £1,000m on imports, she argued.

In practice, less than half that amount has been reused in the past, and the quantity to be recycled this year is likely to fall by 500,000 tons, according to industry estimates.

Mrs Taylor describes the position as absurd, when jobs are being lost and the balance of payments deficit widened. She says: "Six years has passed since the green paper, *War on Waste*, stated: 'There must be something wrong in a society which wastes and discards resources on the scale we do today'. Yet we still have no programme for conserving resources."

Speaking of the environmental aspect, Mrs Taylor said: "It is madness not to recycle when experts all over the world agree that there is going to be a timber shortage by the end of the century".

A man at the industry department said that although the anti-waste programme had been abandoned in name, because the Waste Management Advisory Council, formed four years ago, had been closed, the programme had not been abandoned in practice.

WEST EUROPE



Turin police with Signor Maurice Bignami, who was arrested after a gun battle.

Suspected terrorist leader held

From John Earle
Rome, Feb 5

Signor Maurice Bignami, an alleged head of the Prima Linea (Front Line) terrorist organization, was being held today in Turin, while in Milan, in a sudden upsurge of violence, a factory foreman was temporarily seized by the Red Brigades and a 49-year-old woman was kidnapped.

Signor Bignami, aged 30, was captured in a gun battle with police after a tip off that a gang were robbing a jeweller's shop on the outskirts of Turin. Armed with a gun and wearing a bulletproof waistcoat, he was wounded in the leg and unable to escape with his companions.

Of French origin, Signor Bignami was temporarily arrested in 1977, but afterwards, went into hiding. He was wanted by the police in connexion with four killings, including those of a Milan judge and a Fiat executive.

The factory foreman, Signor Salvatore Compare, was seized near a bus stop by two youths when on his way to work in the early morning shift at the Breda steelworks. They drove off with him to the gates of the works, quickly chained him to the railings and photographed him with a billboard round his neck reading: "Servant of the bosses—Red Brigades, Walter Alasia column", then made off.

At lunchtime, Signora Giorgina Susini, aged 49, wife of a building contractor, was forced into a car by three men as she left home to pick up her children from school. The car drove off in the direction of the motorway.

In Parliament the Government has called for a vote of confidence at the end of a debate on prolonging a temporary measure allowing the police to hold suspected terrorists incommunicado for 48 hours and in special cases, with permission of a magistrate, up to six days. The debate is being held up by filibustering by opposition radical deputies.

The Government decided on a confidence vote, not because its survival is in doubt, but in an attempt to cut short the debate.

Russia buys more food despite embargo

Brussels, Feb 5.—The EEC's subsidized food sales to the Soviet Union rose steeply last year despite a political commitment to limit trade because of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Statistics released by the EEC Commission today show that in the first half of 1980 food sales to Moscow were worth about $720m (£300m) compared to $510m for the whole of the previous year.

While steps had been taken to plug many of the loopholes which allowed a rapid expansion of trade in the months immediately after the embargo was announced, exports of some products were still booming. Reuter.

Farm price rises: European Community Farm price increases of between 6 and 12 per cent, depending on the product, are likely to be proposed by the European Commission later this month (Our Own Correspondent writes from Brussels).

The proposals are to be examined by the Commission again next Friday and will probably be adopted on February 18 for submission to the Council of Agriculture Ministers

The prices are supposed to represent the minimum return needed to assure the EEC's eight million farmers a reasonable standard of living. Any produce for which there is no market demand at these minimum prices is bought up and stored by the EEC.

Although the size of the price increase envisaged by the Commission and Mr Poul Dalsager, the new Danish Commissioner for Agriculture, is much higher than in previous years it will disappoint farmers, who are demanding an average rise of more than 15 per cent.

Strike halts Belgian bus services

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 5

The social unrest in Belgium, already beset by widespread stoppages in the loss-making steel and textile industries, was intensified today as 40,000 urban and local transport employees went on a 24-hour strike throughout the country.

In the capital no trams or buses were running, although the Metro, surprisingly, continued to operate, despite disruption by some strikers lying on the rails. The national railway systems ran normally.

The strike was in support of union opposition to government plans to restrict all wage increases by law over the next two years to the level of inflation, thus freezing real incomes.

The pay restraint measures will go into effect on February 15 unless there is a voluntary wage restraint agreement before then.

So far the employers have rejected the terms demanded by the unions, who are asking that all wage rises already negotiated under collective bargaining agreements—these cover about 75 per cent of the workforce—should be honoured this year and followed by a freeze in 1982.

Role of Europe in East-West relations emphasized

Franco-German summit opens in Paris amid denials that relations are cooler

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 5

The thirty-seventh Franco-German summit meeting opened in Paris today amid a spate of rumours of a distinct cooling of relations between Paris and Bonn.

Even if this were true, which is flatly denied in both capitals, it would not be the first time in the past 18 years, since the signature of the Franco-German treaty of 1963, that France and Germany had taken a different view of world problems. And it would not be the first time either that their differences involved the United States.

Soon after it came into being, the special relationship ran into very heavy water over the preamble voted to the treaty by the Bundestag, which insisted that it did not in any way affect Germany's commitment to Nato.

That prompted General de Gaulle's famous reference at the following Franco-German summit that "treaties, like roses, only last a certain time".

That was in the days of Dr Adenauer, whose relations with General de Gaulle were at least as close as those between President Giscard d'Estaing of France and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor.

Even afterwards, under Professor Erhard, when he was the West German Chancellor, and for whom the general had little time, and tension over Britain's entry into the EEC ran high, the close links between Paris and Bonn endured, barring the inevitable climacterics, because they were at least as necessary to Germany as they were to France.

Successive British governments which nursed the illusion that the West German government would be ready to sacrifice its ties with Paris to the cause of Britain's entry were wrong.

The need for the Franco-German special relationship is at least as great if not greater now than in the late 1960s. And the purpose of these Franco-German summits is precisely, as the Elysée spokesman aptly pointed out, to enable the two sides to reach a common analysis of significant issues.

These are this time East-West relations, in the context of the change of administration in the United States, and the explosive situation in Poland; the Afghan crisis, in the light of the French proposal for an international conference on non-intervention; the contribution of Europe to the search for a settlement in the Middle East, and more generally, the need for it to make its weight felt more effectively in world affairs; and on the economic side, the difficulties arising from the weakness of the mark and the threat of Japanese competition.

Rumours of a cooling in Franco-German relations all hinge on the sharp stiffening of the American attitude towards Russia, and the different reactions it produced in Paris and Bonn.

President Giscard d'Estaing in his television interview last week expressed a "favourable presumption" in favour of President Reagan, and the American determination to reassert leadership, the absence of which under his predecessor was criticized with increasing severity.

Herr Schmidt, on January 30, expressed serious reservations about the new American ambition to recover military superiority over Russia, and said the federal republic had no intention of sacrificing *Ostpolitik* on its altar.

It was never denied in Paris that the two countries' appreciation of East-West problems, détente, and disarmament, was bound to differ because they find themselves in a different situation.

Détente, which President Giscard d'Estaing now prefers to call "stabilization" and concern over the Soviet threat, are for the French a foreign policy issue. For the Germans, it is readily acknowledged here, they raise acute domestic problems because of their repercussions on relations between the two Germanies.

The same goes for the stationing of Euro missiles; but the nature of the Soviet threat, and the little room for manoeuvre which the tougher American policy towards Moscow leaves for Western Europe, reinforces the need for France and Germany to stand together on essentials.

King praised for visit to the Basque country

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Feb 5

King Juan Carlos returned to Madrid today from a hectic and risky visit to the troubled Basque country which most Spanish commentators considered politically positive.

From beginning to end the King faced insults and apathy as well as some enthusiastic cheers and the tour was hardly a triumph in terms of popular support.

On the other hand, the King's courage in undertaking the journey must impress the Basque people.

The independent Madrid newspaper, *El Pais*, praised the King and Queen today for their calm and serenity.

Leading article, page 15

Spanish clash on divorce

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Feb 5

The Spanish Roman Catholic hierarchy collided head on with a number of leading members of the Spanish Parliament here today, after the Permanent Committee of the Spanish Episcopate distributed a document condemning a proposed law which would make divorce possible in this country for the first time in more than four decades.

The bishops denied that divorce can be considered a human right and they insisted on the indissolubility of marriage. Their document said: "If the law to which we refer is passed in its present form, the future of the family will be seriously prejudiced in Spain and the commonweal of our society gravely damaged."

They particularly objected to divorce by mutual consent or any formula resembling it. "Divorce", they said, "becomes an open doorway to the propogation of evil, rather than a remedy for the ills it is intended to alter".

Vatican bank official is arrested

From John Earle
Rome, Feb 5

Signor Luigi Mennini, the senior lay manager at the Vatican's bank, the Institute for Religious Works, was arrested here today on a charge of complicvity in fraudulent bankruptcy. The warrant was issued on orders of a Milan magistrate investigating the collapse in 1974 of the Italian banks of Signor Michele Sindona, the Sicilian financier.

Signor Sindona, whose extradition is sought by the Italian Government, is howeved serving a 25-year sentence in the United States for fraud and conspiracy in connexion with the failure of his former bank, the Franklin National of New York.

The Milan magistrate also issued two other warrants: One, for Signor Franco Giampietro, formerly of Signor Sindona's Banca Privata Finanziaria, was executed in Milan. The other is for Signor Ugo de Luca, formerly of another Sindona Bank, Banca Unione, who has fled.

The arrests were decided after the questioning of several of Signor Sindona's closest collaborators, including Signor Pier Sandro Magnoni, his son-in-law, and after a journey by two Milan magistrates to interrogate Signor Sindona in New York.

Signor Mennini was appointed as manager in charge of administration at the bank by Pope Paul VI in June 1963. He comes under the head of the bank, Bishop Paul Marcinkus, an American from Chicago.

Signor Sindona in his heyday in Italy had close connexions with the Vatican, as well as with many Christian Democratic politicians. He helped the Holy See to diversify its Italian investments abroad.

OVERSEAS

Poland appears to be heading for a fresh crisis as Solidarity calls another strike

Warsaw, Feb 5.—Poland headed for a new industrial crisis today as the leaders of the independent trade union movement called for a general strike in the south western province of Jelenia Gorą on Monday and a 10-day-old strike in another southern province continued.

Workers in the southern region of Przemysl also protested to the Warsaw authorities about new strike pay regulations. They announced they were in a state of strike readiness.

But the Government, which has given Solidarity several stern warnings in the last week accusing it of turning into a political party, made no move to avert the latest wave of protests.

In Bielsko-Biala province, where the 10-day strike is costing 400m Zloties (£5.4m) a day in lost production, union leaders said the deadlock was continuing.

Talks between strike leaders and a Government delegation broke down yesterday after the authorities refused to accept the resignations of local government officials and to discuss the strikers' demands for the dismissal of more officials for alleged corruption and financial abuse. Talks on similar demands have also broken down in Jelenia Gora.

Meanwhile, Mr Prior Jaroszewicz, the former Prime Minister, has been expelled from the Communist Party, the state radio said tonight.

The radio said Mr Jaroszewicz, who was removed from office a year ago, had admitted that he was guilty of charges levelled at him by the party's Central Committee last autumn. These included economic errors, an arbitrary manner of governing and the refusal to heed justified criticism.

Mr Jaroszewicz, aged 69, came to power in 1970 as the right-hand man of Mr Edward Gierek, the former party leader.

The Central Committee, which has the power to approve leadership changes and vote on policy matters, is due to meet on Monday, a day before the Supreme Court is to rule on the legality of an independent farmers' union.

Mr Stanislaw Kania, the Party leader, appears to be firmly opposed to a rural Solidarity union but the urban Solidarity movement has threatened to take strike action if the decision goes against the farmers.

The issue of the farmers' union was left unresolved after talks last weekend between the Government and Solidarity leaders which seemed to cool tempers and avert the threat of immediate confrontation. But less than a week after the two sides agreed on union access to the media and work-free Saturdays, the country is again simmering with protests, strikes and strike threats.

Last night, Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of Solidarity, told workers in Bielsko-Biala, where strikers have closed more than 120 industrial plants, to prepare for full-scale occupation of the factories if the authorities tried to use force.

It was not clear why Mr Walesa had raised the possibility of what he called forcible attacks, and strike leaders in the province said today there were no fears of any immediate action by police or security forces.

In a brief communique, they said workers in the province, close to the Czechoslovak border, were more united than ever and there were no plans for further talks

In Jelenia Gora, another important industrial region close to the Czech border, a strike committee issued a statement giving the authorities until Monday to meet their demands and calling a general strike on the same day.—Reuter.

Crucial meeting: The Central Committee of the Polish Communist Party is to convene on Monday for a crucial session as the situation in Poland shows no signs of settling down and there are growing indications that the authorities are taking a firm stand against alleged "counter revolutionary activity," (Dessa Trevisan writes from Belgrade).

The meeting is to decide on the date for an emergency party congress but there is talk of changes at the top of the party as it is becoming increasingly apparent that the leadership is divided resulting in the party showing little initiative.

Speaking to the party commission which is in charge of drafting a programme for the forthcoming congress, Mr Kania described the situation as "extremely complex" and gave a warning of the danger of anarchy, and attempts to step up dual political power and bring tension to the limit of tolerance.

What must be done, he said, was to create a situation which would secure socialist development but at this moment there was a "threat from counter revolution" coming from extremists within Solidarity. He admitted the party had not envisaged such a development when the Gdansk agreement was signed allowing the establishment of independent trade unions.

Britain's envoy 'interfered in Canada'

From John Best
Ottawa, Feb 5

The leader of the New Democratic Party (NDP), Mr Edward Broadbent, today accused Sir John Ford, the British High Commissioner, of "intolerable interference" in Canadian affairs.

He also accused the High Commissioner of "lobbying" against the Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's constitutional reform package, and suggested that the Canadian Government should consider requesting his recall.

Mr Broadbent based his accusation on a conversation just over a week ago between Mr Ford and Mr Ian Waddell of Vancouver, NDP Member of Parliament.

The conversation took place at a skating party and dinner given by Mr Edward Schreyer, the Canadian Governor-General.

Mr Waddell said that Mr Ford told him Canadian politicians should know that the constitutional package was "not going through" the British Parliament.

He also quoted the High Commissioner as saying that amendments proposed by the NDP, to do with resource control, were "not good enough for the West".

The NDP is supporting the Trudeau constitutional measure but wants it changed to strengthen provincial jurisdiction over natural resources.

The package is opposed by the official Conservative Opposition in the Commons and by eight of Canada's 10 provinces. The measure under which the British Parliament would be asked to legislate a Bill of Rights and a constitutional amending formula for Canada before surrendering all control over the country's constitution is now before the committee of the Canadian Parliament.

Mr Broadbent claimed that the action of Sir John Ford in "arguing" with a Canadian MP over the constitutional issue represented "intolerable interference".

Asked whether he thought the Canadian Government should demand that the High Commissioner be called home, Mr Broadbent said there should be thorough representations that he "cease and desist".

Mr Ford reacted by saying he was astonished by the charge which he suggested stemmed from a misapprehension of the role of a High Commissioner.

Mr Ford, at his own hastily called press conference, denied that he had acted indiscreetly. He said he had merely tried to impress on Mr Waddell that it would be "a very great mistake" for Canadians to assume that British MPs will do exactly and immediately what they are asked to do by Canada.

White terror men held in S Africa

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Feb 5

The South African Government has taken action to stamp out terrorism by white right-wingers who have claimed responsibility for bomb explosions at the offices of liberal politicians and academics.

Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Police, announced in Cape Town today that "a number of whites" have been arrested in connexion with several acts of sabotage for which the Wit Kommando (white brigade) had stated it was responsible.

The minister's statement said that security police had confiscated explosives and other equipment and subversive literature. It is the first big move the authorities have made to counter acts of violence by right-wing groups in recent months.

Mr Le Grange listed among the acts of sabotage an explosion at the home of the Transkeian consul in Port Elizabeth, the office of a professor at the University of South Africa and an explosion at the home of Mr Derrick Watterson, a provincial councillor in Durban.

The attack on Mr Watterson's home was reported at the time to have been made as a protest against his support for mixed, bathing on the Durban beaches. Nobody was hurt in any of the attacks, which appear to have been aimed mainly at gaining publicity

Mr Le Grange's statement said that the attacks had caused damage running into several thousands of rands.

Former Iran Premier tries to rally the opposition

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Feb 5

A rallying call to the Iranian people all over the world was issued from the gilded splendour of the Hotel Crillon in Paris today by Dr Ali Amini, who was Prime Minister of Iran for 14 months before resigning over an argument on arms deals with the Shah in 1962.

Dr Amini, who is now 76, said he had decided to return to politics because of the chaos facing his country and the real threat of a communist takeover.

He sent a telegram today to those he regards as moderate leaders in Iran, including 25 ayatollahs and the association of merchants and guilds of the Tehran bazaar, "to free the Iranian people from the yoke of those who have defaced religion and have dealt a deadly blow to the state, in order to prevent further regret on the part of the people who took part in this revolution".

Dr Amini said he believed his telegram would help act as a rallying call for the Iranian people and help them to rise up against the regime.

He read a statement calling for the formation of "a government of national reconciliation capable of assuring the interests of the Iranian people and establishing security and freedom".

The government, he said, would be composed of "patriotic and competent elements now in Iran and abroad". It had to be formed "before the communists can take advantage of the unfortunate situation and impose themselves by force".

His role in the rising that he was calling for was nothing more than that of a figurehead. He said that he had been in touch with opposition leaders in exile but that what was needed was some system of weaving together all the different threads of dissent to form a united front.

His statement said that the existing Government "had been incapable of imposing its authority while the multitude of decision centres had created administrative anarchy and an atmosphere of insecurity and chaos".

It was difficult to detect in what Dr Amini had to say any real difference between him and the other leaders of the opposition to the Islamic revolution in exile, including Mr Shahpour Bakhtiar. He claimed, however, that he was speaking above politics to save his country from being wiped off the map.

Hunger strike: Two hundred Iranian students held in a Philippines Army camp started a hunger strike today to press demands for their release and the expulsion of Iran's chief diplomat in the Philippines, their lawyer said (AP reports from Manila).

The lawyer said the students, facing possible deportation after occupying their embassy for nine hours in a rowdy demonstration on Tuesday, told him the strike would last "until they die of starvation."

The hunger strike began on the eve of deportation proceedings against the Iranians

Embassy officials said the students held Tuesday's demonstration to protest at a report published by a Tehran newspaper claiming the students were getting "substandard education" here and accusing some of alleged corruption.

OECD deplores overseas aid cuts by Britain

From Ian Murray
Paris, Feb 5

The cuts announced by Britain in overseas aid over the next four years has caused serious concern to the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

A review of Britain's development assistance programme announced in Paris this week was clouded by the forecast cuts of 16 per cent in real terms between 1981 and 198[illegible]. This factor blighted the committee's apparent satisfaction that British aid programmes in 1979/80 represented 0.52 per cent of gross national product, the highest level since 1965.

"While appreciating the economic difficulties faced by the United Kingdom, the committee regretted that aid had been reduced and that by comparison with other public expenditure categories it had borne a disproportionately large part of the overall cuts", its report said.

"In view of the urgent need of the developing countries receiving British aid, it urges the United Kingdom Government at least to keep the volume of its aid stable in real terms and to resume progress as soon as possible. The committee expressed concern that cuts in aid of this proportion would have wider implications for the North-South dialogue."

The British delegation headed by Sir Peter Preston, Permanent Secretary in the Foreign Office's Overseas Development Administration gave assurances that the new objectives which would give "more weight to political, industrial and commercial considerations", would still concentrate on the poorest developing countries

Soldiers attack and rob Kampala residents

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Feb 5

Main government offices, the post office and other key installations in Kampala were under armed military guard today, after groups of armed soldiers had broken into houses, beating and stealing from local residents, last night in Rubaga, a suburb only two miles from Central Kampala.

Mr Paul Semogerere, leader of the opposition Democratic Party, who lives in Rubaga, said five lorry loads of soldiers had surrounded houses near his own home. They fired into the air before breaking down doors, beating people and looting furniture and other goods.

It is believed the soldiers were retaliating for attacks on off-duty troops in the area. But Mr Semogerere said one civilian had been killed and many others beaten or raped.

There was a tense atmosphere in Kampala today. Government officials were apparently trying to pacify the troops, who were reported to be angry at orders to leave the capital for duty in remote areas of northern Uganda.

British aid: The British Government has approved a new grant of £160,000 to help starving people in the Karamoja region of Uganda after reports that conditions are deteriorating.

It will be used by the Save the Children Fund to transport 5,000 tons of food to the stricken area during February and March.

Dr Orlov starts hunger strike in Soviet prison

Moscow, Feb 5.—Dr Yuri Orlov, the jailed Soviet human rights activist, has begun a hunger strike to mark the resumption of work at the Madrid conference on security and cooperation in Europe, dissident sources here said today.

The sources said the 56-year-old physician launched the hunger strike in the Perm detention camp in the Ural mountains

Dr Orlov, a former leader of a Soviet group set up to monitor compliance with the Helsinki agreements, was sentenced in May 1978 to seven years' hard labour and five years' house arrest for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda".—Agence France-Presse.

Oil attracts job-seeking Africans to Nigeria

From Karan Thapar
Lagos, Feb 5

Oil has made Nigeria a haven for good jobs and easy money. Traditionally, it was the Europeans, particularly the British, who came to work in Lagos. They put up with the shortages, the mosquitoes, and the climate because their salaries were generous. In the past few years, however, a new type of foreigner has been coming to Lagos—impoverished Africans from Nigeria's fellow member countries of the West African Economic Community (Ecowas).

Under the terms of the Ecowas treaty, Nigeria guarantees free entry to all citizens of member countries. Ghanians, Togolese, Benois and nationals from Niger are consequently a common sight in Lagos. The turbaned Tuaregs, dressed in flowing kaftans, with buckled swords and daggers by their side, are the most exotic.

The Africans come in search of jobs, lured by the glitter of Lagos and the investment boom being experienced by the Nigerian economy. Some, like the 40,000 Chadian refugees, are escaping unhappy conditions at home. All of them are unskilled or semi-skilled. To Nigerian employers they are useful because they will work at cheap rates and can be dismissed without notice.

To average Nigerians, however, these immigrants are less welcome. They are said to have "stolen" jobs from local people by working for less. There is therefore considerable popular resentment felt. In daily conversation they are blamed for prostitution, crime, beggary and even for the deteriorating civic hygiene of Lagos and the fast rising prices in the country. Newspaper editorials are openly contemptuous, while proud of the fact that Africans come to Lagos for work. The "aliens", as they are called, are simultaneously attacked for "spoiling the atmosphere".

Unfortunately, there are no reliable statistics on how many foreigners are resident in Nigeria. The latest calculation for 1979 gives the ridiculously low number of 45,000. There are probably over four times that number from Ecowas alone, and the total is continually growing.

Except for the Tuaregs, these immigrants are indistinguishable from Nigerians, and as they cross borders without formal passports there are no proper records kept of the influx.

This is no doubt why they were such an easy target for blame when the Kano riots occurred in December. Even President Shagari appeared to suggest that they had a hand in the trouble; and a minister of state for internal affairs actually proposed compulsory identity cards for all "aliens" as a measure to enhance security.

The presence of fellow Africans in Nigeria in such large numbers is, of course, a reflection of this country's leading position in the continent. For the proud politician this is welcome proof of his exaggerated rhetoric. For the ordinary Nigerian it is evidence of the importance of Nigeria. Consequently, much as both may criticize and condemn these immigrants, their presence is as necessary for the former's sense of national significance as it is for the latter's physical and economic well-being.

As a leading Lagos academic put it: "Nigerians love to hate the immigrants, for in doing so they prove to themselves that they are first in Africa."



Moscow embarks on propaganda drive against Reagan policy

From Michael Binyon
Moscow Feb 5

The Russians are gearing up their propaganda apparatus for a new onslaught on the neutron bomb which looks as though it will be as intense as their *last campaign three years ago.*

The announcement by Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Secretary of Defence, that the United States would like to continue the development of the neutron weapons, has been strongly denounced here as a new danger to peace which could not fail to arouse deep alarm in the world.

Pravda said today that President Carter had been forced to abandon the development of the bomb three years ago because of the protests it aroused, especially in Western Europe. The "transatlantic sowers of thermonuclear death" retreated but did not give up their plans, and were now making a fresh attempt to impose the dangerous weapon *on the world.*

The newspaper said that Mr Weinberger's statement *that* the bomb would strengthen the West's theatre nuclear weapons was proof that the move was closely connected with Nato's decision in 1979 to deploy medium range American nuclear weapons in Western Europe: a decision against which the Russians fought as fiercely as they had earlier campaigned against the neutron bomb, though with less success.

In both cases the Soviet Union gave a warning that these weapons would be particularly dangerous for the West Europeans as they would make them the first target in any war. The Russians did much to play on European doubts over the bomb in 1978, and returned to this theme again yesterday.

A Tass commentary predicted that the new Administration in Washington, demanding as usual implicit obedience from the West Europeans, would now use political pressure, economic blackmail and propaganda brainwashing to force them to accept the bomb.

But Western Europe did not want to be drawn into a new arms race and to worsen relations with the communist countries. Tass said the Western Europeans now realized they had been deceived into agreeing to the deployment of theatre nuclear weapons without the ratification of the Salt-2 treaty. It suggested that they might be similarly deceived by the Americans over the neutron bomb.

Mr Weinberger's announcement, coming hard on the heels of the attacks on Soviet policy by President Reagan and Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, has confirmed the Russians' worst fears of the new Administration. Almost at a stroke these pronouncements has destroyed hopes that Moscow may find it easier to do business with Mr Reagan's Administration than with that of his predecessor.

The Russians have been deeply stung by the President's accusations, and today *Pravda* rejected any attempt to equate American motives and policy with good and those of the Russians with evil.

In an almost philosophical article on the two countries' *different viewpoints of man and* his destiny, the newspaper said *the Russians were glad they did* not share the moral outlook of the Americans; the belief that only the lucky ones "picked out by some stamp of God" were entitled to peace and well-being.

Communists believed that everyone had a right to happiness. This was not "amoral collectivism suppressing individuality" but genuine humanism, the newspaper said.

"As distinct from the American leaders, we do not bow down to weapons like icons. We renounce the 'politics of force' and believe in the dignity, creativity and justice of socialism."

The Soviet Union had proposed to the Americans the joint renunciation of nuclear and conventional weapons, but in reply, Washington had increased its military preparations and was trying, with threats and blackmail, to impose nuclear weapons on other countries.

The article accused the Americans of plunging into adventurism, never more quickly than when the White House was moaning about its piety in assuming the leadership of the world—for Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, atheists and anyone else.

Bomb base 'unlikely' in Britain

By Our Political Reporter

Mrs Thatcher told the Commons yesterday that is was unlikely that the proposed neutron bomb would be based in Britain.

Her reply was: "Its purpose is to attack massive concentrations of armaments which the Warsaw Pact countries have and it would be unlikely that such weapons would need to be based here".

Mrs Thatcher was also pressed by Dr David Owen, the former Foreign Secretary, to urge President Reagan in her forthcoming visit to make no decision about the neutron bomb now that European theatre nuclear weapons negotiations have just begun.

Dr Owen said that the development of the bomb should be put into those negotiations in the hope that it may be possible to negotiate and reduce substantially the level of battlefield nuclear weapons in Europe.

Mrs Thatcher said they were all anxious to reduce the level of battlefield weapons but *that* "if we agree we must be absolutely certain that an agreement can be effectively *monitored* otherwise we should lose the essential defence which a government must provide for its people".

Mr Ron Hayward, General Secretary of the Labour Party, issued a statement last night saying: "We shall refuse to permit its deployment in Britain by the United States, or any other country."

He said that the party would compaign in this country and "in cooperation with our fellow socialists throughout Europe, to ensure that this foul weapon is rejected".

Parliamentary report, page 10

US move to calm allies' fears

From David Cross
Washington, Feb5

The State Department is trying to calm European fears that the new Administration may reactivate the neutron bomb programme which was scrapped by President Carter.

A spokesman for Mr Alexander Haig, the new Secretary of State, insisted today that no new decision on the deployment of the weapon, whose official title is the Enhanced Radiation Warhead, would be taken without full consultation with America's European allies. The neutron bomb is a weapon *which kills living things* but leaves inanimate objects relatively unscathed.

At a press conference here earlier this week, Mr Casper Weinberger, the new Defence Secretary, said h thought that "the opportunity that the [neutron] weapon gives to strengthen theatre nuclear forces is one that we would very probably want to make use of".

Since the Defence Secretary's remarks, several European Governments, principally the West Germans and the *Dutch*, have voiced their concern about the possibility that they might be *asked by Washington* once again to station neutron weapons on their soil.

A Boon spokesman *said* that the reluctant approval given to the weapon by Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, a couple of years ago was no longer valid.

Responding to the newly awakened concern in Europe, the State Department spokesman said today that a decision on production of the bomb could be taken unilaterally by Washington, but that the question of its deployment was "obviously a concern not only for us but for our allies".

Mr Arafat dismisses the Jordan option

Continued from page 1

care and in a quiet voice his relationship with King Husain of Jordan, the next almost choking with anger, shouting his condemnation of the "terrorist military junta" that governed *Israel. He gave the impression* of a man caught between emotion and rhetoric, a public speaker whose fury always carries over into the conference room.

He spoke slowly and carefully about Afghanistan. "As a friend of the Afghan people," he said, "I am looking for a *solution* to this issue. It must be on the principle that Afghanistan is a part of the Islamic group, that she is a member of the non-aligned nations and that there should be no interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan." Asked if he would be a mediator, he replied: "If the Afghan people ask me, I am prepared to do it." He would be ready to travel anywhere, including Moscow, because "It *is my duty and the Afghan* people are my brothers."

Mr Arafat did not differen- in the internal affairs of Afghan- "people" and their Soviet-supported Government although he said that he had had "no opportunity" of meeting the Afghan rebel leaders who attended the Islamic summit conference at Taif in Saudi Arabia last week. He accepted President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan's proposal that the United Nations should appoint a special representative to Afghanistan.

Plan to set up a 'liberal democracy'

A future Palestinian state, which would be set up on "any part" of Palestine from which the Israelis withdrew, would be a *liberal* democracy, Mr Arafat said, and he alluded to the present structure of the Palestinian National Council (PNC), the parliament-in-exile whose membership is partly elected by PLO groups and partly nominated by the PLO executive. Palestinians cannot ballot individually for the PNC but Mr Arafat, while aware of its considerable electoral shortcomings, still believes it is more genuinely representative than the governments of most Arab states.

"We are proud of our democracy in the revolution", he said. "It is the hardest and most difficult kind of democracy—because *it is democracy* among the guns. But we have succeeded in creating a democracy and those freedom fighters who have been given a democracy will continue to have democracy in their independent state. And it will be a democratic oasis in the Middle East . . . at the end of the revolution, we will be proud of it. There will definitely be elections. Our people have the right to elect any person."

The PLO leader dismissed the so-called Jordanian option in the Arab-Israeli conflict; the notion that President Reagan could offer the West Bank back to Jordan in return for King Husain's cooperation. He recalled that the King had himself dismissed the idea. But *Mr Arafat said that in a secret* session of the 1974 Rabat Arab summit, the conference which confirmed the PLO as the sole legitimate representatives of the Palestinians, it was agreed that a special relationship would exist between Jordan and a new Palestinian state.

"We are ready to make a special relationship between the Palestinian state and the Jordanian state", he said, "according to the agreement between both sides. This was recorded in this secret session. Our Palestinian National Council accepted it and I am following it."

Mr Arafat was less specific and a good deal more agitated, however, when asked about the human suffering caused by *Palestinian guerrilla raids into* Israel. Indeed, questioning the PLO leader about the innocent casualties of these attacks led to a series of shouted interruptions.

When I asked him why guerrillas in other wars seemed to be able to confine most of their attacks to military and industrial targets whereas Palestinians often appeared to end up killing Israeli children and women, Mr Arafat shouted: "Babies, only babies, yes? Only babies and Children. Do you believe them (the Israelis)? . . . another big lie. What is going on in the south of Lebanon? Who are suffering from Phantoms and from F-15s and F-16 aircraft and from cluster bombs and fragmenta*tion shells, even forbidden* weapons? . . . But the Israelis have the "right" to use very up-to-date and sophisticated weapons and I have not the right to use my armies to defend my people and to defend my small children."

Killing of women and babies 'a mistake'

When I said that some Palestinians seemed to have difficulty in justifying certain attacks, Mr Arafat interrupted again: "Always they are preparing communiques about small children and old women." But such attacks do happen, I said. "It doesn't", Mr Arafat shouted back. "Definitely I have the right to resist. Let them withdraw from my homeland, from our homeland . . ."

Yet there were people, I said, who might agree with Mr Arafat's criticisms yet when women and babies were killed . . . "I am against it", Mr Arafat suddenly said. Such incidents were a mistake? "Yes", he said. "I am against it. But you have to ask these citizens why they are living in my homeland.

"They are participating in this tragedy. They are participating in this crime with their government, the Israeli military junta they have to stop it . . ."

Mr Arafat reiterated his desire to see a Palestinian state in which Jews and Arabs shared equal citizenship with equal rights and he pulled from his jacket pocket a pale blue Palestinian pound note, a crumpled piece of currency issued by the Anglo-Palestine Bank with the denomination written in both Hebrew and Arabic. It was more than 32 years old. The proposal for a joint Jewish-Christian-Muslim state of Palestine was first put forward by the PLO in 1969 and Mr Arafat regards it as proof that the Palestinians can come up with their own solutions.

But would Jews living in homes that had once belonged to Palestinians be forced to leave their houses? "No, no", he said. "We can deal with this matter. We can arrange it. We can find a solution. But they have to accept our right to return back." Mr Arafat did not involve himself in complexities. The Lebanese civil war he described as the result of a "conspiracy".

What have the Palestinians done for Lebanon? "I will continue in my struggle to achieve my homeland", Mr Arafat said obliquely, "so as to leave Lebanon and to thank them for their hospitality. They are suffering too much."

Mr Arafat: Adopts a wait-and-see attitude to new American Administration.

American Commentary by Patrick Brogan

Reagan policies start much fruitful bustling

Washington, Feb 5

On February 1, 1977, the new President donned a cardigan, sat down in front of an open fire in the White House and delivered his first fireside chat to the nation. He never made another, but on that occasion he delighted everyone with his sincerity and competence, and disarmed them by saying: "I have learnt in two weeks in the White House that there are many things a President cannot do. I am sure to make mistakes."

In his first two weeks in office, Mr Carter set the scene for his presidency. He sent his Vice-President, Mr Walter Mondale, off on a tour of allied capitals to assure them of American constancy; announced a programme of tax cuts; examined new ways of dealing with the press to make his Administration more open than its predecessors; and instructed his Energy Secretary to devise an energy policy and his Secretary of State to come up with radical new proposals for dealing with the Russians.

The biggest difference between Mr Carter's position four years ago and Mr Reagan's now is that it was then thought necessary to reflate the economy. Taxes would be cut and government spending would be increased. Mr Reagan wants to cut taxes and cut spending, too.

Mr Carter proposed to cut everyone's taxes by $50 a year (which would be of greatest benefit to poor people) while Mr Reagan wants a flat ten per cent cut (which will be of greatest benefit to the rich). Mr Carter gave up the idea some weeks later, when he came to see that it would be inflationary and unnecessary, and his eco*nomic policies never recovered.*

He never got control of the economy. Spending, inflation, interest rates and the federal deficit all soared upwards over his term of office and although his first mistake was clearly only a small part of his overall failure, it was significant enough.

Mr Carter floated the idea that the press should be admitted to Cabinet meetings. We never were. Mr Reagan has floated the idea that the press should be allowed as little contact as possible with the White House staff.

In the two weeks since Mr Reagan was inaugurated, the Government has at last started moving again. One can make a good case that it stalled early in November, 1979, when the hostages were seized in Tehran and Senator Kennedy announced that he was running for the presidency.

Now, at last, American foreign policy is moving again, serious thought is again being devoted to national defence and there is much fruitful bustling around by economists to get President Reagan's economic ideas off the ground.

Mr Carter left behind a budget with a proposed deficit of $27,500m. He had cooked the books, of course: the real deficit he proposed (for the year beginning next October) was $73,000m. By slashing away at the budget, Mr Reagan may reduce the deficit, and then by cutting taxes he will put it up again.

In his first fortnight, Mr Reagan gave a conventional press conference (his first fireside chat was tonight), and where Mr Carter increased spending, Mr Reagan has frozen federal hiring and ordered all new federal regulations suspended for two months. He has also decreed an end to the regulation of the price of petrol (but not gas).

Whether his first few weeks in office will prove to be more productive than were Mr Carter's, will be judged in four years' time. In the meanwhile, he will not say, however true it is, because it would be to admit failure at the outset: "I have learnt in two weeks in the White House that there are many things a President cannot do. I am sure to make mistakes."

President sets the pace on 70th birthday

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 5

It is President Reagan's seventieth birthday tomorrow and the jokes about is are already flying fast.

The President who has never seemed to mind people poking fun at his advanced age—the press called him the "O and W" during the recent election campaign for "oldest and wisest"—has been taking the lead himself. No doubt he hopes that this will deflect some of the less kind remarks which are circulating about him being the oldest American ever to enter the White House.

"I know your organization was founded by six newspaper-women in 1919". Mr Reagan told the Washington Press Club at its annual dinner last night. "Seems like only yesterday", he continued

Then today he thanked those attending a national prayer breakfast who had serenaded him with a loud rendition of "Happy Birthday" with the comment that he was celebrating only "the thirty-first anniversary of my thirty-ninth birthday".

The President is expected to spend tomorrow like most other days at his desk in the Oval Office. But in the evening the First Lady is organizing a surprise party at the White House.

Panama accuses US of violating Canal treaties

From Stepen Downer
Panama City, Feb 5

President Aristides Royo of Panama intends to protest to President Reagan against alleged violations by the United States of the spirit of the Panama Canal treaties, signed in October 1979, Señor Jorg Ritter, the Panamanian Minister of Government and Justice has said.

The Panamanian Government's main concern is over what it sees as the lack of autonomy of the Panama Canal Commission as a result of the *treaties' implementation* mechanism passed by the United States Congress.

"We have always *maintained* that the commissioners are autonomous," Señor Ritter said, "*not officials of the United* States, as Washington seems to think they are."

The commission of five United States nationals and four Panamanians was established to administer the 50-mile waterway until December 31, 1999, when it will become Panamanian property.

Until then, 42 per cent of what was the 533-square-mile Canal zone will be controlled by the commission because of operational and defence considerations.

Panma is also worried by Mr Reagan's publicly *aired* disapproval of parts of the treaties and fears that he might disown them, using the *implementation* mechanism as an excuse.

The Panamanian Government sent Mr Edmund Muskie, the former Secretary of State, a 200-page letter in November listing the alleged violations. The letter came after two others sent to President Carter in late 1979 and early 1980, according to Señor Ritter.

"President Royo *intends* doing the same with President Reagan." he added.

Another of the *points* to which the Panamanians object, the minister went on, was United States *insistence* that without the presence of a majority of the United States commissioners at any meeting there is no *quorum.* "The treaties did not stipulate that that had to be the case."

The treaties were pushed through thanks mainly to the persistence of General Omar Torrijos, who seized first shared an dthen total power in Panama in a coup in 1968.

General Torrijos, who now heads the Panamanian National Guard and is the power behind the Royo presidency, might be

Brooklyn court's ruling on homosexual ward

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Feb 5

A Brooklyn judge ruled yesterday that a 22-year-old homosexual may legitimately adopt his lover, even though the guardian will be four years younger than his ward. The judge, Mr Leon Deutsch, said he at first had doubts about the arrangement but could see nothing in law to stop it.

The couple share a house and had sought to become legally related because it simplified such matters as insurance, inheritance and pensions. The younger man adopted the older one (their names have not been disclosed) because the younger is settling the estate of his late mother and feared complications if he were adopted by someone else.

There is nothing illegal in a homosexual relationship here. Last year, an appeal court overruled a state law against sodomy, when undertaken between consenting adults of any sex.

The judge said he would allow the adoption because the couple had shown valid economic reasons for it.

OVERSEAS



Advice for promoter: Mr Harold Smith, the Los Angeles boxing promoter (above), who is being sued for $21.3m (£9.14m) was publicly advised by Muhammad Ali, the former heavyweight champion, yesterday to "go right to the FBI before he talks to me". Mr Ali added at his home near Los Angeles: "I'm going to tell Harold: 'Don't talk to me'." He had been asked by journalists if he knew of Mr Smith's whereabouts.

Mr Smith, chairman of Muhammad Ali Professional Sports Inc, has been named in a suit in which Wells Fargo National Bank claims it was defrauded of $21.3m.

Mr Richard Cooley, the chairman of the Wells Fargo Bank of California, yesterday described as "preposterous" allegations by Mr Smith that bank officials were responsible for embezzling some $200m to $300m.

Mr Smith claimed in telephone calls on Tuesday that he disappeared because he feared for his and his family's lives.

Chinese leaders show an image of unity

Peking, Feb 5. — China's leaders belied persistent rumours about their disagreements by presenting a united image today, the Chinese New Year's Day.

Most significant was the re-appearance in public of Mr Hua Guofeng, the Communist Party chairman, after more than two months absence.

Last night, as firecrackers signalled the start of the Year of the Cockerel in the Chinese capital, Mr Hua, who is shortly to step down as chairman in favour of Mr Hu Yaobang, the party's Secretary-General, had a New Year's Eve dinner with Mr Hoang Van Hoan, a former member of the Vietnamese National Assembly, who defected to China in 1979.

Tonight, Chinese television showed film of the regime's strong man, Mr Deng Xiaoping, the party Vice-Chairman, attending a reception organized by the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, a body grouping non-Communist Party figures round a nucleus of party representatives.

The film put an end to speculation over the lack of newspaper coverage of Mr Deng's activities. Even General Chen Xilian, former Peking military commander who was removed from the Politburo last year, received a mention in the official press.

General Chen, one of those closest to Mr Hua and the Maoist heritage, now under attack as Mr Deng pursues his policy of minimizing the role of Mao Tse-tung, is still a member of the central committee.

Meanwhile, Mr Huang Zhen, aged 71, a veteran of the communist long march, has lost his post as Minister of Culture as part of a reorganization of that ministry into a watchdog body to supervise Chinese intellectuals and artists.

A New China news agency dispatch said today the Culture Ministry was now headed by Mr Zhou Weizhi, referred to as the "Acting Minister of Culture". It did not say when Mr Huang had left, but analysts said his departure, apparently for technical rather than political reasons, appeared to have come about recently.

The report said Mr Huang would become the head of a new organization, the Chinese Liaison Institute for Culture Abroad.—Agence France-Presse.

Firework injuries: Fireworks have injured many people celebrating the Chinese new year.

The Peking Evening News said one city hospital treated 85 people last night for injuries from fireworks, which can be bought in China without age restriction.—Reuter.

45 Pakistani emigrants die in boat

From Our Correspondent
Islamabad, Feb 5

At least 45 of a party of illegal Pakistani emigrants died of starvation and thirst at sea during a 23-day journey on a rickety launch between January 10 and February 2.

About 25 survivors, near to death, were rescued in the Arabian Sea by a United States naval supplies ship on February 2 about 400 nautical miles southwest of Karachi. One died on board the American ship.

About 16 Pathans and more than 50 Sindhi Baluchi men, most of them under 30, were being taken on a private launch illegally to Dubai on the pretext that they would be able to get jobs there. The launch broke down a few hours after the journey began on January 10. Although the men tried to row the boat towards the shore a storm pushed it away further into the open sea towards Muscat.

There have been a number of fatal incidents involving illegal emigrants to the Gulf and the Pakistan Government has taken many measures, including the employment of coastguards to prevent people leaving the country illegally in search of lucrative jobs in the Gulf states.

Luanda seeks ways to increase food production

Lack of incentives damages Angola

From Anthony Lewis
Luanda, Angola, Feb 5

Mr Roberto Dalmeida, the Planning Minister, searched for the right word in English to describe the Government's new approach to Angola's economic problems. He chose pragmatic.

People have to be motivated to work, he said, and gave as an example small farmers, who owned their own land. When the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola took power in 1975, it nationalized only farms abandoned by Portuguese settlers and large company-owned tracts—about 15 per cent of the land.

"We have been in a phase when small farmers wouldn't sell their crops for money because there was nothing to buy. They asked 'Why do I want money when I can't buy clothes with it?'—so they just grew enough for their own subsistence."

To give farmers incentive to grow cash crops, the Government urgently needed to build up a transport system and get goods to the villages. The Portuguese had left almost no lorries behind in 1975, and of those bought since then, many had been wrecked.

The Government intended to help small farmers by supplying seeds, fertilizer and machinery through cooperatives. Until now agricultural investment had gone almost entirely into big state farms, Mr Dalmeida said.

Food is Angola's biggest economic problem by far—90 per cent has to be imported.

Before independence Portuguese farmers here supplied much of the domestic market for corn, sugar and potatoes. They also grew large crops of coffee and cotton for export. When the Portuguese left, production plunged — and, as officials acknowledge—the new Government's socialist policies have not helped.

Today Angola grows less than than a fourth as much cotton and coffee as it did before 1975 and probably less of the food staples.

Because the towns have been short of food and the villages short of industrial goods, a system of barter has developed. People in the towns get whatever goods they can, drive out to the country and trade what they have for food, some of which they resell in the towns.

Mr Manuel Pedro Pacavira, the Agriculture Minister, has estimated that 50 per cent of the food grown in Angola is absorbed by barter trade or black market, which the authorities want to stamp out.

At a special congress held in Luanda last December, the ruling party made agricultural development its priority. Mr Dalmeida said the aim was self-sufficiency in food.

One way of improving the economic situation is to hire more managers and technicians from abroad.

A Scandinavian here said: "There's an atmosphere of not caring. People have nothing much to buy, so they don't see why they should work to earn money. A lot of people wish the Americans would come and start organizing things.

"The Government makes no secret of the need for foreign experts—not just executives but electricians, telephone workers, hotel managers and tyre makers. Some who have come here, but so far not very many, are Americans."

A Brazilian company has a contract to refurbish and manage Luanda's two operating hotels and another that is out of commission. French experts are going to advise the state farm managers on grain production and West German pilots fly the Angolan Airlines Boeing 707s and 737s. Volvo and Fiat and an East German company are training motor mechanics—and perhaps they will repair Luanda's mostly inoperative fleet of Mercedes taxis.

The big American company here is Gulf Oil, which pumps oil from offshore wells in Cabinda, an enclave separated from the rest of Angola by a bit of Zaire. Mr Thomas King, the Gulf manager here, said he was optimistic about business prospects.

"We do have some frustrations, but you have those anywhere in the world. It's no different from our operations elsewhere, except that supplies are spread a little thinly. You have to have a greater degree of self-sufficiency", he said.

Gulf has 100 foreign regular employees here and 140, mostly Portuguese under contract. It employs 350 Angolans and is starting a programme to train them for more skilled oil operations.

Texaco is renegotiating a pre-Independence oil agreement with Angola, and two French companies, Total and Elf, won concessions last year to explore offshore.

Angola is considering whether to join the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.
—The New York Times News Service.

Ecuador says Peru broke ceasefire pact

Lima, Feb 5.—Peru and Ecuador yesterday sent international observers back to their disputed border zone to verify that their troops were maintaining a ceasefire.

In Quito, the Ecuadorean capital, President Jaime Roldos accused Peru of violating the ceasefire agreement by flying transport aircraft over the region with the intention of landing troops at its border posts. Peru has denied this.

In Lima, the Peruvian Armed Forces gave the first details of military action.

The command said one Peruvian was killed and six were wounded, and Ecuador suffered "some casualties".—AP.

Salvador volcano battle

San Salvador, Feb 5.—At least 45 people have been killed in El Salvador in a two-day battle between leftist guerrillas and government troops for control of a volcano used as a beacon for rebel supply drops, witnesses said today.

Officials also reported 40 political killings in the past 24 hours, including seven young men kidnapped and shot dead by right-wing "death squads" in the San Salvador suburb of Cuscatancingo.

Local residents described the fight for control of Conchagua volcano on the edge of the Gulf of Fonseca in southeastern El Salvador.

In Washington, the State Department has announced that Mr Frederic Chapin, a senior Defence Department official handling Latin American security policy, has been made Chargé d'Affaires at the American Embassy in San Salvador until a new Ambassador can be named.

Authorities here said the bodies of at least 24 men and two women, several of them tortured, were found shot dead yesterday in San Salvador and the western provincial capital of Santa Ana, a rightist "death squad" stronghold.

In San Martin, 12 miles east of San Salvador, government troops fought guerrillas.

Leftists allege that Guatemalan troops are fighting alongside El Salvador's Army in an effort to stamp out the Marxist insurgents struggling to overthrow the Junta.—UPI.

FOREIGN REPORT

Even the poor in Algeria are happier at lifting of restrictions

In Algeria it seems every pavement is a playground, every clothesline has a cluster of nappies and every available living area is bursting at the seams. Children dominate the scene.

There are an average of three Algerians for every habitable room in the country. About a quarter of the 18 million population is under five and over half the population had not been born when independence was granted 18 years ago.

By the turn of the century it is predicted that the population will have doubled. Inevitably the population explosion has caused serious problems—it is responsible for the housing crisis, the shortage of jobs and the near collapse of the administration in some departments which have become swamped with work.

The Government is not well-equipped to deal with the inevitable problems of a birth bulge. Hidebound and blinkered as it has been by the demands of a system based on dogmatic socialism, it has not had the necessary suppleness to adapt rapidly.

One obvious problem is that of feeding the population. Despite the agrarian revolution, which was officially brought into being in November, 1971, the country is still far from being self-sufficient in food—although in fairness it must be said that great strides are being made to achieve this.

In the meantime, however, a good deal of food has to be imported and with the food, inflation is brought into the country. This is now running officially at around 12 per cent, but some estimates put it as high as 17 per cent. Meat in the towns can cost as much as 70 dinar a kilogramme (about £3.50 a pound) and most families can only afford it on special occasions.

With training, the huge young population could provide the workforce needed to exploit the Algerian potential for industrial development. Diversification away from near total reliance on gas and oil as a money earner is essential if the economy is to develop. But training places are so far insufficient, with preference apparently given to children whose parents work for one of the big nationalized societies that control every important industry.

Another problem has been that the socialist character of the economy has tended to put off potential investors from the West—certainly this is the case with Britain.

This outlook and image of the country was very much the creation of President Boumedienne, who ruled very strongly from the centre. An undoubtedly brilliant man, he inspired something akin to fear even in his closest associates. When he died there was a deep-felt desire among the all-important senior Army officers for a more flexible leadership, away from the total Muslim puritanism and socialist theory which had dominated the Boumedienne regime.

So the Army put forward Chadli Bendjedid and their support was enough to defeat the claims of the supposed heir apparent, Muhammad Yahyaoui, who if anything is more strict and orthodox a Muslim and socialist than Boumedienne had been.

President Chadli has already shown himself to be more flexible. "He has no personal dislike of private property", one diplomat has said of him. He is a pragmatist with no liking for "isms", preferring order and work to wall slogans.

It would be wrong, however, to think that he is likely to move away from the socialist system, which is now a deeply rooted fact of life. If he has reduced the powers of the executive bodies like the Central Committee of the FLN (the only legal party in Algeria) and the politburo, he has shown every sign of wanting to exploit the advantages of the nationalized societies.

At the same time he is prepared to tolerate and even encourage what are termed "the allies of the revolution" in the "non-exploiting" sectors of retail, agriculture and tourism. One of his close associates in the Cabinet has gone on record as saying that "sometimes competition does not harm". There is a growing acceptance of the belief that it is unrealistic to expect everything from the state.

The President has made it clear that he wants to balance the economy by the end of the £41,000m five-year plan which was agreed at the end of last year. He has, however, said: "The high standards of living the people are looking for are not for tomorrow".

The people nevertheless seem to be happier already and everyone seems to talk about the more liberal feel of the Government. The removal of restrictions limiting trips out of the country has been welcomed, even by those who cannot afford to travel. The lifting of restrictions on buying land is appreciated, though few can afford to do so.

The new President has had to face industrial disputes, university riots and Berber risings in his term of office, but he has succeeded in calmly taking the steam out of the situations by patient explanations.

His personal belief in Islam lacks the almost fanatical strength of his predecessor, but at the same time he has been steeped in a feeling for his religion from childhood. The result is that his emphasis is less on an Islamic federation than on national traditions.

One example is the appointment of a new minister to deal with popular arts. The Queen, during her recent visit, was taken, not to see a heavy industry factory as would have happened in the days of Boumedienne, but to see a craft workshop.

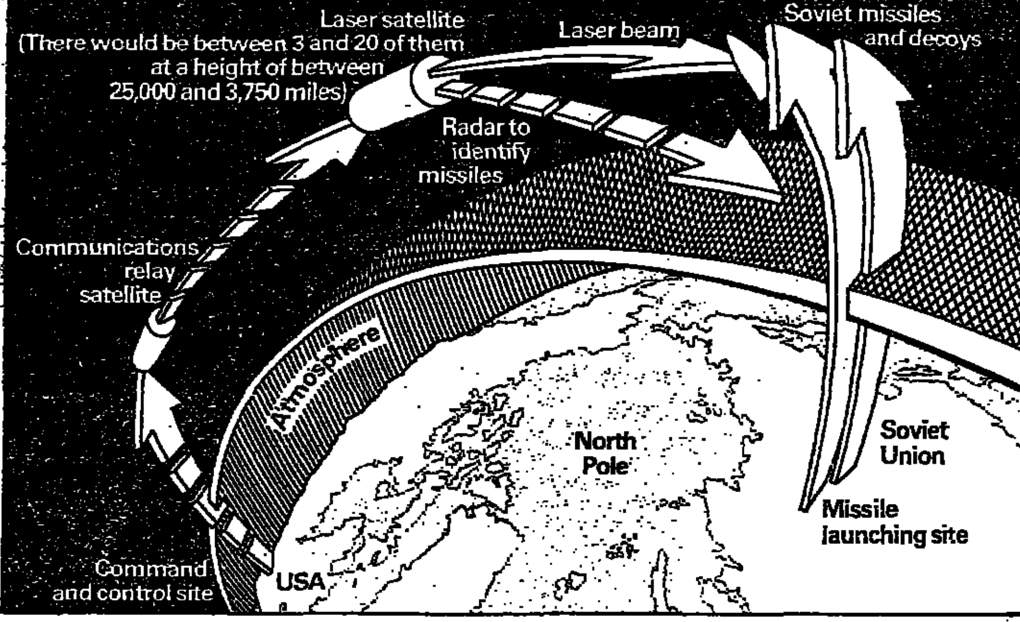
The new President, for all that he appears to have made a favourable impression with the people, still lacks the presence of his predecessor. The tragedy of the earthquake of El Asnam has given him the opportunity to show a lead. By using the 85,000-strong Army—which originally gave him power—to help in the disaster area and by promising to spend £400m building a new prefabricated town of 40,000 homes, he has struck a chord with the population.

For the twentieth anniversary of independence in 1982, he has called for a new history of the country to be prepared. Current history books do not even mention the name of the first President and resistance leader, Ben Bella, who was arrested in 1965, so the bulk of the young population scarcely know he existed.

President Chadli himself made no reference at all to his predecessor in his last state of the nation speech. The signs are, therefore, that when the new official history appears, the name of Ben Bella will reappear and the name of Boumedienne will not loom quite so large.

Ian Murray

Between three and 20 laser-armed satellites needed to cover the earth



The United States Air Force recently announced the successful test of a laser beam capable of destroying intercontinental ballistic missiles.

It has also been disclosed that the space shuttle, the American reusable space ship, due to make its first flight this year, will be used to test an aiming and tracking device, considered essential if the laser is to become an effective weapon of destruction.

Last December a Senate committee urged the Government to accelerate its research into laser weapons because, it was claimed, the Soviet Union might have already begun developing an operational system. Such prompting should find a willing audience in the White House where President Reagan is said to favour a crash research programme. There is talk, however unfounded, of a programme as intense as the Manhattan Project, which produced the atomic bomb to end the Second World War.

Are we then, as some commentators believe, on the threshold of an age in which directed energy weapons like the laser or, more futuristically, the particle beam, will cause a fundamental review of the strategic balance and the weapons which preserve it?

The technical feasibility of the laser weapon has long been proven. The American Air Force exhibited parts of target aircraft "shot" down by a laser's high intensity light beam at last year's Farnborough Air Show—along with the model of a KC135 aircraft converted to carry out associated tests from the air.

As a means of destroying enemy satellites or ballistic missiles shortly after launch and before their multiple warheads have disengaged it is in space that the laser weapon has its most promising application. There, the concept of a weapon orbiting the earth, its beam darting with the speed of light from target to target without the attenuating effect of the atmosphere, has an obvious theoretical attraction for defence scientists.

The engineering obstacles, however, remain daunting. Between three and 20 laser-armed satellites would be needed to cover the earth, depending on the orbit chosen—and only one of these would probably be in the right position at the right time.

Each satellite might need to be up to 10 times bigger than any space station so far launched, and would need to cover ranges of up to 25,000 miles (again depending on the orbit).

There is a "trade-off" between the numbers of satellites and the range they have to cover—the higher the orbit, the fewer one needs, but the greater the range.

A laser is not particularly efficient in that about 90 per cent of its energy is dissipated in waste heat. To penetrate the skin of a modern missile one would need to supply it with a power of about 1,000 megawatts at any given time. The average output of the London Electricity Board is only 700 megawatts higher than that, so the plant required to generate such power in space would be enormous—hence the size of the satellite.

The obvious response of a country faced by such a threat would be to toughen the skin of its missiles, so even this power requirement could soon become outdated.

Like all weapons a laser would need to detect its target, then track it and "inform" its command and control unit on the ground whether it had scored a hit and how much damage had been inflicted. As an anti-ballistic missile system it would have time for only one "shot" anyway.

Unlike a missile, a laser has to be accurate to within a couple of metres. A missile can destroy another missile by the use of a proximity fuse, so that it need be accurate only to within a few miles. But a laser beam is very narrow and has to be if it is to concentrate its power to burn through a metallic target.

Lasers could be mounted on aircraft, of jumbo size probably, and this would simplify the engineering problems. But the beam would then have to combat the effects of the atmosphere and a fleet of aircraft would be required.

An aircraft—or a space station for that matter—would itself become a target for the enemy and would need substantial protection from fighters or hunter-killer satellites.

Britain and France have conducted feasibility studies on laser weapons, and the French are carrying out a secret study of their possible use to protect their own land-based missiles from a pre-emptive strike. But only the superpowers seem to have the resources to overcome all the various obstacles.

These obstacles are by no means insuperable. Few seriously doubt that an intensive research programme could overcome them. As an anti-satellite system, the laser weapon looks unlikely to be as cost-effective as more conventional means of destruction. As an anti-ballistic missile defence, however, it has undoubted potential because no other satisfactory system has been found.

On the question of arms control, the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 expressly forbids the destruction of satellites by any kind of weapon. The anti-ballistic missile treaty, which was signed as part of Salt in 1972 also prohibits the deployment of either lasers or particle-beam weapons in an anti-missile role. However, this treaty does not ban their development and how long the treaty would remain effective if an effective system could be produced is another matter.

Mr Hans Mark, who was Air Force Secretary in the Carter Administration, has already predicted that laser weapons will form an important part of the American strategic arsenal during the next decade. Many believe that he will be proved right. But should he sound quite so confident—and so keen?

Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Isolation gives shrill edge to Grenada's defences

Nearly two years after experiencing the English-speaking Caribbean's first coup, the tiny island of Grenada is virtually isolated from its neighbours, and fears, particularly since President Reagan's arrival in the White House, an American invasion.

On the face of it, there is little reason why the United States should worry over one small Cuban protégé in the eastern Caribbean, an island of 110,000 people where the revolutionary Government begs the people to welcome the cruise ships that regularly swing into the beautiful, hill-ringed harbour of the capital, St George's.

In the last year or so, the Caribbean's flirtation with left-wing politics, which gained momentum after Mr Maurice Bishop and his New Jewel Movement overthrew Grenada's eccentric leader, Sir Eric Gairy, in March, 1979, has cooled. In island after island, election results have produced a march back to safe, tried Westminster systems and conservative leaderships.

With the fall of Mr Michael Manley in Jamaica last October, Grenada lost its one staunch ally apart from Cuba. The year ended with a vicious slanging match between Mr Bishop and Mr Tom Adams, Prime Minister of Barbados, who thought it was time Grenada held elections. The rest of the anglophone islands have kept their distance; in Port of Spain, Dr Eric Williams, Prime Minister of Trinidad, will not even open Mr Bishop's letters.

But isolation has given a shrill edge to Grenada's defences, and shadowy imperialist enemies are detected waiting to pounce. Nor is Mr Bishop's People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) entirely imagining them. It can point to two attempted counter-coups, a string of shootings, and an attempt to blow up most of the Cabinet at a mass rally last June.

But terrorist hostility strengthens the PRG's missionary resolve. It provides extra justification for keeping detainees locked up without trial; about 100, perhaps 40 of whom have been there since the takeover.

It is used to back up Mr Bishop's argument that elections are not a priority. Conventional campaigning would be a dangerous distraction from the serious business of transforming an underdeveloped island society into a productive, self-reliant, proud community. The PRG, Mr Bishop argues, already has sufficient mandate for that in the popular support that certainly exists.

The PRG, in its assault on the Caribbean's perennial problems of poverty, dependence and underdevelopment, is attempting the first real break with the traditional laissez-faire politics of the anglophone Caribbean. It is steadily reducing the 50 per cent unemployment it inherited from Sir Eric Gairy, putting idle land back into production, and getting a slack and stagnant economy under control in a way that has impressed even the International Monetary Fund.

It has attracted more than £30m in aid from a wide range of donors—from the West, the Middle East and the Soviet block. Except for hardcore terrorist opposition, the political violence of the late Gairy years has gone. Medical care is free, there has been long overdue educational reform, and the PRG is attempting to build a rudimentary village democracy which might well replace the inherited Westminster structure.

But the Caribbean, like Britain and the United States, is not much impressed. When Mr Bishop came to power, he promised early elections, and has broken his promise. The process of putting detainees on trial has been slow. Hypersensitive to detractors of the revolution, the PRG has kept a lid on independent media and opposition parties. It has brought in, with a show of reluctance, a Terrorism Act which introduces the death penalty.

The anglophone Caribbean likes none of this, nor Grenada's politicized army and voluntary militia. Still less does it like the close alliance with Cuba, which has provided extraordinarily generous aid. Cuba is helping to build Grenada a new international airport, and its 200 or so technicians, including hardworking doctors and dentists, have made a strong impression. The two islands have abolished visas for each other's people.

The PRG now looks for its allies not to Kingston and Port of Spain, but to Havana and to the Sandinistas' Nicaragua. It tends to follow a Moscow line, for example, on Afghanistan. To the rest of the English-speaking islands, this is anathema. There is talk of excluding Grenada from Caricom, the Caribbean Community.

Grenada's is essentially a nationalist revolution, clearly capable of mobilizing its population. Isolation and hostility are driving the island out of its natural alliances, out of the range of traditional influences, and into a defensive reliance on Havana. In this way, the West and the Caribbean may be repeating exactly the same mistake that was made over Cuba, 20 years earlier.

Jeremy Taylor

CUBA THE BAHAMAS 300 miles CARIBBEAN SEA JAMAICA HAITI DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PUERTO RICO HONDURAS NICARAGUA COSTA RICA PANAMA COLOMBIA VENEZUELA ANTIGUA GUADELOUPE DOMINICA MARTINIQUE ST LUCIA ST VINCENT BARBADOS TOBAGO TRINIDAD GRENADA Victoria Sauteurs Gouyave Grand Roy Grenville Woodford St. George's Providence Bacolet 10 miles

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Law Report February 5 1981

Damages for 'lost years' awarded to deceaseds' estates

Gammell v Wilson and Another. Furness and Another v B. & S. Massey Ltd

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Russell of Killowen and Lord Scarman

Where a person has died in consequence of the negligence of another, either immediately or before he has himself been able to bring a claim and prosecute it to judgment, his estate is entitled to recover damages in respect of earnings which he would have made during the period of his life which he lost—"the lost years". Such damages are not precluded by section 1(2)(c) of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1934.

The House of Lords dismissed two appeals by defendants who admitted liability but contested the amount of damages in actions by the personal representatives, the parents, of two young men aged 15 and 21 at the time they died.

In the first appeal, Mr James Gammell sued as administrator of the estate of his son, Edward James Gammell, who was killed through the negligent driving by Mr Reginald Wilson of a vehicle owned by his employers, Swift & Co Ltd. He claimed damages under the Fatal Accidents Act, 1976, for himself and his wife as dependants of their dead son and also under section 1 of the Law Reform Act of 1934.

On that claim, Mr B. A. Hytner, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, awarded, inter alia, £6,625 for loss of future earnings in the "lost years". The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Brandon and Sir David Cairns, Lord Justice Megaw dissenting) (*The Times*, April 18, 1980; [1980] 3 WLR 591) dismissed the defendant's appeal. They held that the cause of action for negligence was vested in the deceased under section 1(1) of the 1934 Act immediately before his death and survived for the benefit of his estate; that that cause of action would have entitled the deceased to recover damages in respect of loss of earnings during the "lost years"; and that section 1(2)(c) did not exclude that head of damages.

Section 1 provides: "(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, on the death of any person after the commencement of this Act all causes of action . . . vested in him shall survive . . . for the benefit of his estate. . . . (2) Where a cause of action survives . . . for the benefit of the estate of a deceased person, the damages recoverable for the benefit of the estate of that person:— . . . (c) where the death of that person has been caused by the act or omission which gives rise to the cause of action, shall be calculated without reference to any loss or gain to his estate consequent on his death, except that a sum in respect of funeral expenses may be included."

In the second appeal, the parents, Mrs Marian and Mr Edward Furness, claimed damages against B & S Massey under the 1934 Act for the death of their son, Kevin, aged 21 and unmarried, who was killed at work. Mr Justice Tudor Evans, at Manchester, awarded £15,547 for financial loss related to the earnings of the deceased for the "lost years" and granted his certificate for a "leapfrog" appeal to the House of Lords.

Mr Piers Ashworth, QC, and Mr William Gage for the defendants in the Gammell appeal; Mr Lionel Swift, QC, and Mr Christopher Sumner for the plaintiff. Mr Piers Ashworth, QC and Mr J. J. Rowe for B & S Massey Ltd; Mr Richard Clegg, QC, and Mrs J. H. Smith for the plaintiff parents.

LORD DIPLOCK said that he was at one with all their Lordships in holding that both appeals should be dismissed—reluctantly, because he did not think that that outcome was either sensible or just. He agreed with the interpretation placed on section 1(2)(c) by the majority of the Court of Appeal in *Gammell*.

His Lordship analysed the development of the law of damages for death, partly by Parliament and partly by judicial decisions arrived at on a case-to-case basis and said that in the result the law of damages for death had reached a state for which he could see no social, moral or logical justification.

Where Parliament had intervened by passing the Fatal Accidents Acts, the law relating to damages for death recoverable by dependants was sensible and just. His Lordship joined with their Lordships in thinking it was too late for anything short of legislation to bring the like sense and justice to the law relating to damages for death recoverable by the estate of the deceased.

LORD EDMUND-DAVIES said that in *Pickett* ([1980] AC 136) the House had found itself ineluctably driven to hold that an injured plaintiff, whose working life had been shortened as a result of the defendant's negligence, was entitled to be compensated for any loss of earnings during the period ("the lost years") when, but for his injuries, he would have been likely to continue at work. In the present appeals the House was confronted by a situation different in an important respect from *Pickett*. There the plaintiff had instituted proceedings and actually recovered judgment during his lifetime; but in the present appeals the plaintiffs were administrators of the estates of deceased persons who were killed either instantaneously or shortly after being involved in accidents attributable to the defendants' negligence.

In each case the plaintiffs were also the parents of the deceased (each of whom died intestate), and they sued (1) under the Fatal Accidents Act, 1976, on behalf of themselves as dependants, and (2) under the Law Reform Act of 1934 on behalf of the deceased's estate. No question arose on the awards under (1) but under the 1934 Act awards for the "lost years" of £5,656 in the *Gammell* case and £15,547 in the Furness case, two questions were raised. (A) Did an action lie to recover such damages, seeing that the injured party died without having instituted legal proceedings? (B) If an action did lie, on what basis should damages for the "lost years" be assessed?

An affirmative answer to the question "Did the action lie?" was obligatory in light of the decisions in *Rose v Ford* ([1937] AC 826) and *Pickett*. For it was impossible to distinguish in legal principle between a claim in respect of shortened expectation of life, on the one hand, and in respect of shortened expectation of working life on the other.

In his Lordship's view the interaction of *Pickett* and section 1(1) of the 1934 Act led to the inevitable conclusion that a claim for the lost years did lie in each of the present cases. The defendants in both cases accepted that that would be so were it not for the provision in section 1(2)(c) of the 1934 Act that "where the death . . . has been caused by the act or omission which gives rise to the cause of action [the damages recoverable for the benefit of the estate of the victim] shall be calculated without reference to any loss or gain to his estate consequent on his death, except that a sum in respect of funeral expenses may be included."

The defendants submitted that that provision was fatal to the claim made in relation to the "lost years" in each case. The contrary view was expressed in *Furness* by the judge, who held that such cause of action was vested in the deceased the instant before he died and that the loss was accordingly consequent not on the death but on the tortious act of the wrongdoer. And the majority of the Court of Appeal reached a similar conclusion in *Gammell*.

The general wording of section 1 of the 1934 Act was important, providing for the survival of all causes of action vested in the deceased. What followed by way of exception to the general rule should be restrictively interpreted, lest that generality be largely or completely nullified. It dealt simply with the calculation of the damages exigible in relation to an established cause of action.

In the Court of Appeal in *Gammell* Lord Justice Megaw had drawn what he regarded as an essential distinction between loss of earnings before death and after death, regarding loss of earnings up to the date of death recoverable as part of the damages in the Law Reform Act action not caused by or "consequent on" his death but that the loss of earnings thereafter was consequent on his death and hence excluded by section 1(2)(c).

His Lordship disagreed. Just as Lord Russell of Killowen observed in *Rose v Ford* that damages "for shortened expectation of life . . . are not for loss to the estate consequent on the death, but for loss to a living person consequent on the wrongful act of the defendant", so also damages for cutting short a man's working life ("the lost years") were in no sense "consequent on the death". That was the only acceptable conclusion.

It had been objected that if compensation for the lost years were recovered by dependants in excess of their Fatal Accidents Acts claims, they would gain a "windfall"; and it was also complained that the decisions in the present cases imposed additional and unfair liability on the wrongdoer.

His Lordship would answer question (A) in the affirmative.

On question B, the assessment of compensation for the "lost years" was the ordinary one of arriving at a fair figure to compensate the estate of the deceased for a loss of a particular kind sustained by him in his lifetime at the hands of the defendants. It was a task for the judge, and the House would only interfere where an assessment of damages was perverse or arrived at on an incorrect principle. The award called for no adjustment. His Lordship would dismiss both appeals.

LORD FRASER, concurring, said that under the existing legislation and following the House's decision in *Pickett* there was no escape from dismissing both appeals, though like Lord Diplock his Lordship regarded the result as neither sensible nor just.

It was no doubt just that where the death of the family breadwinner was caused by the negligence of some other person, that person should be liable to compensate the deceased's dependants for the injury suffered from the death—loss of support, provided for by the Fatal Accidents Act, 1976. But it seemed difficult to justify a law by which the deceased's estate, which might pass to persons in no way dependent on him for support, could recover damages for loss of earnings or other income which he would probably have received during the "lost years" particularly in cases like the present where in each case the deceased was a young man with no established earning capacity or settled pattern of life. In such cases the process of assessing damages could hardly be dignified with the name of calculation; it was little more than speculation. Yet that was the process which the courts were obliged to carry out at present. The unhappy state into which that part of the law of England had fallen could now only be corrected by legislation on lines similar to that recently enacted for Scotland, for much the same reason, in the Damages (Scotland) Act, 1976.

LORD RUSSELL, though of opinion that the damages recoverable for the benefit of the estates in both the present cases included damages which the deceased could have recovered if living in respect of the lost years, and would dismiss the appeals, regretted the decisions. The law had gone astray by excessive refinement of theory. His Lordship would welcome legislation which overruled in the future the results of the decision in *Pickett* and its extension in cases such as the present. That might be combined with legislation which in some way prevented respondents being barred from a Fatal Accidents Act claim by the fact that the deceased pursued his claim to judgment.

Lord Scarman delivered a concurring speech.

Solicitors: Mawby, Barrie and Scott for Gardner & Croft, Canterbury; Furley, Page, Fielding & Pembrook, Canterbury; Hextall, Erskine & Co for Stanley Evans, Oates & Co, Manchester; Brian Thompson, Manchester.

Revenue wins

Roome and Another v Edwards (Inspector of Taxes)

The House of Lords allowed an appeal by the Crown from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Buckley, Lord Justice Bridge and Lord Justice Templeman) (*The Times*, December 5, 1979; [1980] Ch 425) and restored the special commissioners' decision to uphold in principle an estimated assessment to the tax for 1972-73 of £200,000 made on the resident trustees,

House of Lords

Why nurses are protected by Abortion Act

Royal College of Nursing v Department of Health and Social Security

Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Diplock, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Keith of Kinkel and Lord Roskill

The House of Lords, Lord Wilberforce and Lord Edmund-Davies dissenting, gave their reasons for allowing, on December 9, 1980, an appeal by the Department of Health and Social Security against the declaration granted to the Royal College of Nursing by the Court of Appeal (the Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Brightman and Sir George Baker) (*The Times*, November 10) concerning advice issued by the department about the legality of the role of nurses in abortion.

The court had declared that the statement as to the legality of the role of the nurse in termination of pregnancy by medical induction and the statement as to procedures that might be performed by an appropriately skilled nurse or midwife contained in a letter and annexes thereto dated February 21, 1980, and circulated by the department were wrong in law, and that acts carried out by nurses or midwives in performing the termination of pregnancies set out in one of the annexes contravened the law relating to abortion and in particular the provisions of section 58 of the Offences Against the Person Act, 1861.

The House granted a declaration in the terms granted to the department by Mr Justice Woolf (*The Times*, August 1), namely, that the advice contained in the letter of February 21, 1980 and the annexes thereto did not involve the performance of unlawful acts by members of the college.

Section 1 of the Abortion Act, 1967 provides: "(1) Subject to the provisions of this section, a person shall not be guilty of an offence under the law relating to abortion when a pregnancy is terminated by a registered medical practitioner if two registered medical practitioners are of the opinion, formed in good faith—(a) that the continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk to the life of the pregnant woman, or of injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman, or any existing children of her family, greater than if the pregnancy were terminated; or (b) that there is a substantial risk that if the child were born it would suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities as to be seriously handicapped".

Sir Ian Percival, Solicitor General and Mr Simon D. Brown for the department; Mr Michael Spencer and Miss Caroline Moore for the college.

LORD WILBERFORCE, for dismissing the appeal, said that the issue related to a non-surgical procedure of medical induction by the use of a drug—prostaglandin—which operated on the mother's muscles to cause contractions (similar to those in normal labour) which expelled the foetus from the womb. The question had been raised by the royal college as to the participation of nurses in that treatment, particularly since nurses could be called on to carry it out. They sought a declaration that a circular issued by the department, asserting the lawfulness of the nurses' participation, was wrong in law.

In 1967 when the Act was passed the only methods used to produce abortions were surgical. Parliament could not have had in mind a process where abortifacient agents were administered by nurses. They did not exist. Extra-amniotic administration of prostaglandin was first reported in 1971 and soon found to have advantages. It involved or admitted direct and significant participation by nurses in the abortifacient steps. Was it covered by the critical words of section 1?

His Lordship considered the Act should be construed with caution. In view of its antecedents and the state of affairs in 1967 which involved surgical action requiring to be confined to termination by doctors alone, his Lordship was unable to read the words "pregnancy terminated by a registered medical practitioner" as extended or extensible to cover cases where other persons played a significant part in the process of termination. With nurse, etc, participation a new dimension had been introduced: that should not be sanctioned by judicial decision, but only by Parliament.

His Lordship's concluded opinion was that the development of prostaglandin induction methods merited the attention of Parliament. It had justly given rise to the perplexity in the nursing profession. His Lordship doubted whether that would be allayed when it was seen that a majority of the judges who had considered the problem shared their view. On the present appeal his Lordship agreed with the Court of Appeal that an extension of the 1967 Act to include all persons, including nurses, involved in the administration of prostaglandin was not something which ought to, or could, be effected by judicial decision. He would dismiss the appeal.

LORD DIPLOCK said that the comparatively modern method for terminating pregnancies, unknown in 1967, took considerably longer than the purely surgical methods; the average duration was 18 hours, with a maximum of 30 hours, and the part played by nurses was of greater importance as well as longer than a purely surgical method.

The "law relating to abortion" which the 1967 Act intended to amend and clarify was defined in section 6 as meaning "sections 58 and 59 of the Offences against the Person Act, 1861". Under section 58, an offence was committed whether or not the woman was in fact pregnant and, if pregnant, whether or not the attempt to terminate it was in fact successful. It drew no distinction between terminations of pregnancies carried on the advice of medically qualified gynaecologists or obstetricians and "back-street abortions", but the requirement that to constitute the offence the abortifacient must be administered or the instrument used "unlawfully" indicated that there might be circumstances where it would be lawful to bring about an abortion.

There were two aspects to the policy of the Act; to broaden the grounds on which abortions might be lawfully obtained; and to ensure that the abortion was carried out with all proper skill and in hygienic conditions. The circumstances in section 1(1) qualifying a women to have her pregnancy terminated lawfully were much broader than those stated in the *Bourne* case in 1938; and they included matters of expert medical opinion. The Act left them to be decided, not by the jury on expert evidence after the event, as in *Bourne*, but in advance by two reistered medical practitioners whose opinion, duly certified under section 2(a), rendered treatment for the termination of the pregnancy lawful if carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

The requirement of the Act for treatment for the termination of the pregnancy, which threw most light on the second aspect of its policy and the true construction of the phrase in section 1(1), which lay at the root of the dispute between the parties, was the requirement in subsection (3) that, except in cases of dire emergency, the treatment must be carried out in a National Health Service hospital (or private clinic specifically approved for that purpose by the minister). It was evident that in providing that that treatment should take place in ordinary hospitals, Parliament contemplated that (conscientious objections apart) it would be undertaken as a team effort in which, acting on the instructions of the doctor in charge, junior doctors, nurses, para-medical and other hospital staff members would each do those things forming part of the whole treatment, which it would be in accordance with accepted medical practice to entrust to a staff member possessed of their respective qualifications and experience.

Subsection (1), though expressed to apply only "when a pregnancy is terminated by a registered medical practitioner", also appeared to contemplate treatment in the nature of a team effort and to extend its protection to all those who played a part in it. The exoneration from guilt was not confined to the registered medical practitioner by whom a pregnancy was terminated; it extended to any person who took part in the treatment for its termination.

What limitation on that exoneration was imposed by the qualifying phrase "when a pregnancy is terminated by a registered medical practitioner"? In the context of the Act what it required was that a registered medical practitioner—a doctor—should accept responsibility for all stages of the treatment for the termination of the pregnancy. The particular method to be used should be decided by the doctor in charge of that treatment; he should carry out any physical acts, forming part of the treatment, that in accordance with accepted medical practice were done only by qualified medical practitioners, and should give specific instructions as to the carrying out of such parts of the treatment as in accordance with accepted medical practice were carried out by nurses or other hospital staff members without medical qualifications. To each of them the doctor or his substitute should be available to be consulted or called on for assistance from beginning to end of the treatment. In other words, the doctor need not do everything with his own hands; the subsection's requirements were satisfied when the treatment was one prescribed by a registered medical practitioner carried out in accordance with his direction and of which he remained in charge throughout.

His Lordship would allow the appeal

Lord Edmund-Davies delivered a speech for dismissing the appeal, and Lord Keith and Lord Roskill delivered speeches concurring in allowing the appeal.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Mr M. J. Scrivener.

Outside the section

Milne v Milne

The Court of Appeal said that the power of a court to order either party to a marriage to pay a lump sum to the other, under section 23(1)(c) of the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1973, cannot be exercised by ordering that one party take out and make payments under a life insurance policy, and assign the benefit to the other.

The court varied an order by Judge Ewart-James at Salisbury County Court providing for the husband to make periodical payments to the wife and a daughter, and to execute a life insurance policy, make all payments due thereunder and assign the benefit to the wife.

MR JUSTICE PUCHAS said that the life insurance order was outside the ambit of the powers given by section 23(1)(c), to pay "such lump sum or sums as may be so specified".

The parties had married in 1947 and lived together till 1979. The wife had brought up the three children, and was entitled to recognition.

Under section 25(1) the court had to have regard to the financial resources of the parties in the foreseeable future. The husband, aged 54, was a member of a pension scheme at his place of employment, under which on retirement or at pensionable age he could commute one quarter of the pension into a lump sum, which at present would yield about £16,000. If he died before then, a lump sum of about £15,000 was payable to his estate.

The correct order was that, provided the wife was still alive at the material time, she should receive a sum equal to half the amount the husband or his estate would be entitled to on his retirement or earlier death. There was no magic in the fraction of a half: his Lordship reached that amount in view of the long marriage. The periodical payments order should not be disturbed.

Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Justice Ormrod, delivered concurring judgments.

PARLIAMENT, February 5, 1981

Mrs Thatcher says it is unlikely that neutron bombs would need to be based in Britain

House of Commons

The suggestion that the United States administration might wish to return to the development of the so-called neutron bomb was extremely dangerous and serious, Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, said during questions to the Prime Minister.

Mr Foot (Ebbw Vale, Lab) said: One aspect in this matter which would be extremely dangerous for everyone in Europe would be that it could reduce the level of the nuclear threshold. That should be an overriding consideration.

What steps will the Government be taking to try and ensure this and kindred weapons are never stationed in Europe at all?

Mrs Margaret Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C): It is clear that this is one of the possibilities that the new United States administration may want to consider.

We have so far not been asked to look at any new proposal, but the United States Defence Secretary (Mr Casper Weinberger) at his press conference said the allies would be fully consulted before any decision was reached.

Mr Foot: Will this House be consulted?

Mrs Thatcher: That is not wholly a matter for me, but I have no doubt that the matter would come up on many occasions here.

Mr Frank Allaun (Salford, East, Lab): Does she accept that countries with differing political systems have to live or die together? Will she tell President Reagan that if he wants to relax east-west tensions - -

A Conservative MP: Tell Brezhnev about that.

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley, Lab): Don't be stupid, you fat faced twit. (Conservative protests.)

Mr Allaun: Will she tell President Reagan that the use of such words as cheats, liars and criminals, and the deployment of the neutron bomb, are not the way to relax tension, particularly since Russia would no doubt follow suit in the introduction of the neutron bomb?

Mrs Thatcher: I am certain that Russia has as many nuclear weapons as she wishes to have. She has put enormous concentrations of resources on research and technology into all the weapons of destruction in preference to the consumer standard of living of her society.

On the neutron bomb, its purpose is to attack massive concentrations of armaments which the Warsaw Pact countries have, and it would be unlikely that such weapons would need to be based here.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandworth, Battersea, South, Lab): When she goes to Washington to meet President Reagan, will she impress on him that the people of this country and the whole of Europe are anxious about the increasing step into nuclear weapons and impress on him the need to consider coming back to Salt 2 and perhaps Salt 3, which is a better way forward than facing yet another horrible weapon?

Mrs Thatcher: When I see President Reagan I shall tell him I believe that the vast majority of people in this country are anxious to have proper deterrents to the weapons which the Soviet Union has, and has in such abundance. The first duty of a Government is to defend and protect its own people. (Conservative cheers).

When Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, Lab) was called Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) commented: The Council for Social Disease. (Laughter)

Dr Owen: Now that the European theatre nuclear weapons negotiations have just begun to start, would not the Prime Minister agree that in her forthcoming visit to Washington she should urge President Reagan to make no decision about the deployment of the neutron bomb, but to put this whole issue into the European theatre nuclear weapons negotiations and hope it may be possible to negotiate and reduce substantially the level of battlefield nuclear weapons in Europe?

Mrs Thatcher: We are all anxious to reduce the level of battlefield weapons and the level of all armaments. The problem is that if we agree we must be certain that an agreement can be effectively monitored, otherwise we should lose the essential defence which a government must provide for its people.

Adoption of code for security of firearms

The number of serious offences involving firearms recorded by police in England and Wales increased by 40 per cent between 1969 and 1979, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said during questions.

He announced that the British Shooting Sports Council had agreed voluntarily to introduce, at his request, a code of practice on the security of firearms in private hands.

Mr Edward Taylor (Southend, East, C) asked the Home Secretary what percentage change had taken place in the number of offences and crimes involving the use of firearms over the past 10 years.

Mr Whitelaw (Penrith and the Border, C): The number of serious offences recorded by the police in England and Wales in which firearms, including air weapons, were reported to have been used, rose from about 1,300 to about 6,550 over the 10 year period 1969 to 1979, a 400 per cent increase.

Of the 6,550 such offences recorded in 1979, some 4,250 were offences of violence against the person or of robbery.

Mr Taylor: These are disturbing and alarming figures. Has he been able to identify the particular reasons for this sharp increase in the use of firearms, whether airguns, pistols or shotguns? Has he and new plans to curb this dangerous trend?

Mr Whitelaw: There has been over the same period a considerable increase in crime of all sorts and we have to look at any of these figures against that background.

But these are serious figures. I believe the secure holding of firearms is important. I have taken steps to that end in talking with the British Shooting Sports Council, which will be affected.

We have to consider every other method to make sure firearms do not get into the wrong hands.

Mr Stanley Newens (Harlow, Lab): Access to firearms is an important factor which permits an increase in their use in crimes of violence. There is a strong case, in view of the figures, for tightening the requirements for the issue of shotgun licences.

Mr Whitelaw: I am having a review of firearms and shotgun certificates.

Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C): The more firearms are used in the commission of crimes, the more the police are forced themselves to take firearms in order to seek to maintain the peace.

In particular, would he say what he is doing about replica guns which are increasingly used in the commission of crime?

Mr Whitelaw: On his first point, I accept this is very worrying and I have written to Mr Griffiths in the last day or two about replica guns.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): In many crimes the shotgun has been used. There is a powerful shotgun lobby in Tory areas that exerts pressure.

Mr Whitelaw: The people who hold shotguns legally for sporting purposes are in no way the people who are in any way responsible for crimes with firearms.

I have asked the British Shooting Sports Council if they would introduce a voluntary code of practice on the security of firearms in private hands. At a meeting they had yesterday they agreed to do this. This is much the most sensible and constructive way forward.

Moderating wage settlements and lowering inflation provide chance for expansion

The four key elements in the Government's economic strategy were set out by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister. The centrepiece of that strategy, she explained, remained the conquest of inflation.

The three other aspects were a sustained effort to reduce pressure on the economy created by excessive Government spending; the need for unit labour costs to be competitive with those of rivals in order to secure more jobs; and the need for the Government to set the right economic framework.

Two new enterprise zones in the North of England, she announced, would be at Hartlepool and at South Kirkby in West Yorkshire.

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C) moved a Government motion: "That this House approves the economic and industrial policies of the Government; welcomes the continuing fall in the rate of inflation, greater realism in wage bargaining, and increasing awareness in industry of the need to be competitive; and recognizes that lower inflation, higher output, an expanding private sector and better industrial relations provide the only secure basis for more jobs."

She said the centrepiece of the Government's strategy remained the conquest of inflation. It would be a worthy enough aim in itself. To have any other objective was to set out to cheat all those who had saved. But the fight against inflation was far more than that. It was the only way to achieve the other economic goals.

Inflation and unemployment were not alternatives except in the short term. For years there had been a widespread belief that one could have high inflation and high unemployment at the same time, that more jobs could be secured if one was prepared to put up with a little more inflation. But experience of the past 25 years had taught Conservatives that these beliefs were a most damaging illusion. (Conservative cheers.)

Inflation and unemployment rose inexorably together. Each new Government had had a higher rate of unemployment than the preceding one and it was this cycle that this Government had set out to break. (Renewed Conservative cheers.)

Yet Labour and their TUC friends were advocating the same process. Their proposals amounted to a huge injection of money into the economy. This would mean still higher inflation and no prospect of unemployment ever coming down.

The Opposition preferred a prospectus which had been discredited by experience.

Instead of relying on wage and price controls which never worked for long, the Government's principal weapon for cutting inflation was control of the money supply. Monetary conditions as a whole had been tight and had helped reduce inflation. Over the last six months, retail prices had risen by 3.7 per cent only though this figure understated the underlying trend because of the pattern of price increases during the year.

The second aspect of the Government's strategy was a sustained effort to reduce pressure on the economy created by excessive Government spending.

Unless this is done (she said) there just will not be room for the private sector to prosper and to create jobs.

An overmanned public sector, financed by an overburdened and overtaxed private sector, struggling to keep its costs to the bone, would be another recipe for unemployment.

The Government had made some progress in reducing the extravagance of the previous government but because of the effects of the recession, there had been some unavoidable spending increases, particularly on nationalized industries and unemployment benefit.

However, we shall (she continued) come out of the recession with a substantial reduction in the underlying level of public spending. This will leave room for expansion in the private sector where most of the new jobs will be created.

If the TUC's proposals to increase public spending by £4.7 billion were not financed honestly, the country would be on the road to hyperinflation.

On the third element in the strategy, to secure more jobs, unit labour costs must be competitive with those of rivals. Though pay settlements had moderated in recent months, some were still too high.

Pay negotiators were now learning, alas the hard way and not with much help from Labour MPs, that excessive pay settlements meant bankruptcies and fewer jobs.

Competitiveness was not only a question of cost and price. They had been losing out for years in terms of new technology, new investment and new products.

One of the reasons had been declining profitability and a reason for that was that people earning wages and salaries had taken too much out for today and left too little for investment tomorrow.

Mr Peter Tapsell (Horncastle, C) said a Reuter report this morning said that the British Government now intended to pursue a different exchange rate policy to help British industry. If that was the case, a lot of people in industry and politics would welcome it as they felt it would help restrain the rising levels of unemployment.

Mrs Thatcher said that rapid increases in the exchange rate caused tremendous problems for exporting industries. The Government did not have a positive policy for intervening in the exchange rate. Intervention could not resist the market for very long.

They did not know the precise relationship between interest rates and the exchange rate. They would bear the high exchange rate in mind when taking other decisions.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): It's the same old story.

Mrs Thatcher: Of course it is. The truth usually is the same old story. (Loud Conservative cheers).

Mr Skinner: The truth about this Government's policy is that it deliberately engineered two and a half million people on the dole and it is rising still probably to well over three million to try to subjugate the trade unions and workers.

That is the policy of this Government and that is why eventually we shall get her out either in this place or outside and replace her with (Loud Conservative protests and cries of "Oh").

Mrs Thatcher: That is not the truth. It is plain rubbish and the sort of rubbish we expect from him. The latter part of his remarks shows he is more interested in what happens outside this House than in the process of democracy.

Mr Skinner's was the face of the new Labour Party which was not the face of democrats but those who had moved further and further left to the East European type of economy.

Another of the reasons for declining profitability was that companies which had invested had often been unable to use their new machinery efficiently because of restrictive practices and resistance to change. Companies would not invest unless the unions allowed them to use new equipment and machinery to the benefit of that company and those who worked there.

It did not seem to occur to Labour MPs that one of the main reasons British industry has been short of orders had been that it could not compete.

The TUC economic review for 1981 suggested they had not learnt the lesson either. There was scarcely a reference to competitiveness, productivity or profitability on the whole document.

Competitiveness would decline further unless management and workforce shared an understanding of the need to earn sufficient profits for investment, development and innovation.

It is not enough (she said) to look only at next week's wage packet if you want job security. The Government is doing all it can to promote this understanding, but the Opposition say we should return to their tired old formula of more government intervention, more controls and more nationalization. That is the last thing the country needs. (Conservative cheers)

The Conservative approach was to return the responsibility and the initiative where it belonged to the management and workers in the business itself. It might take some time to achieve this but it must be done if they were to release the full potential in Britain.

The fourth element in the strategy was that the Government had to set the right economic framework. It had reduced the basic and higher level of income tax nearer to the level of the country's main competitors so that those who had talent and energy to create new business would do so in this country.

Those were the only policies that would succeed in the long run. The Government recognized that there were difficulties during the transition period and it was doing everything it could to cushion the harsher effects of the change.

It accepted there was a special duty to young people unable to find jobs.

The Government had done everything it could on the industry side to encourage overseas investment in the development areas. It had introduced the concept of enterprise zones and they would bring real stimulus to some of the worst hit areas and provide the basis of future prosperity.

With the nine zones already announced the Government had promised another one in the North. The Government had now decided there should be two northern zones. One would be in Hartlepool, Cleveland, and the other at South Kirkby, near Wakefield, in West Yorkshire.

The Opposition was advancing policies even more extreme than those they followed when in office. The Labour Party called for massive extra spending of money which the country did not have, which it could not borrow, and which would force it to print. This policy would lead Britain back to the hands of the IMF.

Wage settlements were moderating and inflation was coming down without controls on prices or incomes. They now had the chance to move into expansion without these inbuilt distortions to correct.

The prize in prospect was the country trading with a stable currency, making better use of its manpower. This would be imperilled if they resorted to import, capital exchange and socialist controls. It would also be imperilled by massive increases in public spending, borrowing and printing.

When the wealth-creating conditions in the economy were right, together with confidence about value of money, and realism in wage bargaining, wealth would be created. This wealth would be spent and would provide the jobs. (Conservative cheers)

Citizens' radio may be on lower frequency

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office, said at question time that he could not announce an immediate amnesty for users of citizens' band radio frequencies pending a Government announcement.

However, he stated: In the light of the response to the discussion document, we have been reviewing the possibility of introducing a service on a lower frequency in addition to one around 930 MHz. We hope to be able to announce our conclusions shortly.

Mr Kenneth Warren (Hastings C): I welcome his willingness to support my belief that everyone should be able to communicate freely in a free society.

Would he give his best estimate of when he will authorize citizens' band in order to give British industry a better chance of getting into the market and remove the stigma of illegality from thousands of people who want to communicate with one another?

Mr Raison (Aylesbury, C): I cannot give a precise date.

Mr Peter Viggers (Gosport, C): There seems to be a tidal wave of opinion in favour of citizens' band. The Government still has a chance to play the part of a surf rider rather than King Canute. Is not immediate legalization possible?

Mr Raison: I realize there is a strong body of opinion in favour of legalization. There is also widespread concern about interference, especially with television.

We are giving this matter careful attention and will announce something as soon as possible. He has misinterpreted the role of King Canute.

Special police units on racist attacks

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, confirmed at question time that consideration is being given to establishing special police units to investigate and deal with racist attacks.

Mr William Shelton (Lambeth, Streatham, C) had asked if he had seen the report on the police and community relations in Lambeth instigated by Lambeth Council.

Most of the malicious allegations in it (he went on) are anonymous. In the part of Lambeth I represent, the police are highly regarded and welcome on the streets. The only regret is that there are not more of them on the streets.

Mr Whitelaw (Penrith and the Border, C): There are large numbers of people of all parties who give great support to the police and are grateful for the way they carry out an extremely difficult task.

I do not wish to pretend for a moment that everything is perfect. The Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police attaches the highest importance to achieving good relations between the police and the community. So do I.

It is important to have more police on the streets. The Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police has done a great deal in that regard.

That raises its own problems so far as effective contact between the local police and those with influence in the community is concerned. There is a great need on both sides for more communication and more determination to work together.

No good is done to that necessary cooperation by publishing a series of anonymous statements under headings like "Army of occupation".

Mr John Tilley, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Lambeth, Central, Lab): Can he confirm reports that he has decided to ask police throughout the country to monitor and investigate racialist attacks? If he can confirm that we would welcome it.

In the context of the Metropolitan Police, for that operation to be a success there would be a need for greater liaison with the police, community relations councils and the black groups who are suffering these attacks.

Mr Whitelaw: I met representatives from the Joint Committee against Racialism yesterday. They put to me their concern about attacks on minority communities, for example on the Asian and Jewish communities.

I agreed to look at the activities of groups who may be responsible for such attacks and to be in touch with chief constables, and to consider a suggestion made by the committee that special units might be set up in police forces to look into and deal with these problems.

The Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and chief constables already do a great deal in that regard and deserve every encouragement from the House.

Cooperation is a two-way traffic. Cooperation with the police can only be achieved with the will to do so. Attacking them, as that pamphlet did, is not a wise proceeding.

Industry being wiped off map–Mr Foot

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab) moved as an amendment: "That this House, deploring both the massive rise in unemployment and the massive fall in industrial output, calls upon the Government to abandon its economic and monetary policies which are crippling British industry and inflicting great and lasting damage on the whole economy."

He said he did not dispute the Prime Minister's sincerity in claiming that fighting inflation was the centrepiece of her policy, but there was one moment when she and her Government wavered, with serious consequences. That was the moment when she and the Chancellor of the Exchequer introduced that first budget.

The Government wavered because it thought it was more important to fulfil its election promises to one small section of the community than it was to carry them out for the rest of the community. (Labour cheers).

If the Prime Minister pursued the proposals to reduce inflation by the means she had been adopting up to now, she might succeed. The inflation rate might eventually come down to its level at the time she took office. It was quite likely that she would get it down further still.

If she did it by the means she was employing at present, the result for industry and employment would be catastrophic. (Loud Labour cheers).

One of the many shameful actions this Government had taken was to run away from its commitment to low-paid workers. When Labour returned to power it would take measures to assist them. To fight inflation successfully over a long period, it was necessary to have a policy for protecting low-paid workers.

The Prime Minister argued that the cause of unemployment in recent times had been the high inflation rate and that any attempt to solve Britain's problems by a fresh round of reflation would produce greater unemployment. She had the temerity to say that this was based on experience.

It was certainly not based on the experience of the 1920s and 1930s. In those years there was no great inflation, but there was mass unemployment.

From 1945 to 1968 there were about 18 different attempts by different governments to reflate the economy. Throughout that period the unemployment figure did not rise above 2 or 2½ per cent. It was difficult to claim that the reflation or inflation was the cause of the unemployment.

The Prime Minister, who liked to claim that she was so practical in her nature, never learnt from experience. That was the trouble. She tried to prevent her companions from learning from experience.

So far from saying that the proof of the pudding was in the eating, she said that the proof of the pudding must be looked for in some old professor's cookery book. (Laughter.)

Mrs Thatcher was trying to persuade the country that what was happening was much less serious than was the reality. She had failed to understand the scale of the crisis and gave too optimistic accounts of how the country might escape.

Industry was producing less than it did 10 years ago. Jobs in manufacturing were being lost, perhaps permanently, at the rate of 12,000 a week. No other country in the West except Belgium was losing its industry so fast, and all in the sacred name of competition.

In the name of competition more British industries were being wiped off the map than ever before. When the recession ended those industries would not be there to compete. That was the reality.

He had always regarded Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, to have what he would call pawky imperturbility. That was the Government's best form of defence. Mr Biffen, whether in the Government, out of it or half out of it, would always seek to tell MPs what he believed to be the truth.

In January 1980 Mr Biffen said that there would be three years of unparallelled austerity. He did not exactly win a bouquet from Mrs Thatcher for that declaration. It did not deter him, because a few months later he was saying that his prophecy had not been invalidated. (Laughter).

In April, Mr Biffen had said: "I fear in politics there is all too often a disposition to be optimistic far too soon." Those words recurred as he (Mr Foot) listened to Mrs Thatcher, particularly because Mr Biffen had been in the last few weeks examining the profitability of *The Sunday Times*.

If (he continued) he thinks *The Sunday Times* is not profitable, I wonder how many other industries in Britain would be condemned on that same method of book-keeping? (Laughter).

It would be a very wide range of industry that will be coming knocking on his back door, or the back door of the Secretary of State for Industry, if the same criteria he applies to the hopeless unprofitability of *The Sunday Times* was to be applied to a whole range of British industry.

I hope Mr Biffen will explain to us how many unprofitable industries it is his determination to keep in being during this recession.

He did not blame Mrs Thatcher for not being prepared to say how high unemployment was to go, or how long they were to continue with the policies which helped to cause it, but it was hard to dispute the claim of the TUC document about the scale and nature of the unemployment problem which faced them.

There was no doubt that the unemployment situation was the most serious of the century.

That was the basis on which the House should approach it. Mrs Thatcher did not. She continued to offer phoney figures about the situation and had given more in the Commons on Tuesday, about increased unemployment in Denmark, the Netherlands and West Germany.

Instead of cutting public expenditure the Government should boost spending and expand public services. Instead of ensuring that the pound was kept at a high level the Government should bring its value down to a level where British manufacturers could compete in world markets.

Instead of standing by while foreign producers took an increasing share of the British market, it should control imports.

Instead of withdrawing industrial support in many regions, it should help industry to modernize and create jobs.

Instead of reducing aid to the depressed areas, it should subsidize the creation of jobs of those areas. It should pour more money into ensuring people were properly trained.

It all came back to Mrs Thatcher. More and more of her followers and even some associates in the Cabinet revolted against the policy she was seeking to impose on them and the country. She had already won her niche in history. She was the Prime Minister of mass unemployment.

Cabinet look at state of fishing industry

The Cabinet had decided that it must look at the timing and level of help provided for the fishing industry Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, said.

Sir Walter Clegg (North Flyde, Lab) stated: There is a great crisis facing the British fishing industry, and Fleetwood. What steps is the Government going to take to help?

Mrs Thatcher: I am aware of the grave crisis facing the fishing industry in Fleetwood and in ports in England and Scotland.

My colleagues and I have considered the matter briefly this morning and we agreed that we must look at both the timing and the level of help provided for the fishing industry.

Tenerife crash

Mr Reginald Eyre, Under Secretary for Trade, in a written reply, said: On January 30, 1981, the Spanish authorities informed the Accidents Investigation Branch of my department that the text of the final report on the accident to the Dan Air Boeing 727 G-BDAN at Tenerife would be available shortly.

Fewer ships will fly British flag

The seamen's strike would mean fewer jobs and fewer ships flying this country's flag, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, said.

Sir Graham Page (Crosby, C) asked: Would she warn against the continuing damage of the seamen's strike, the immense loss of revenue, the loss of British ships to foreign ownership, and the loss of future employment for British seamen?

Mrs Thatcher: I am happy to endorse what he has said. If this strike goes on, I am afraid it will mean fewer jobs for our people and fewer ships flying our flag.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab): I have asked in the last two or three weeks that the Government should make up its mind to intervene in this dispute. Will she confirm that the National Union of Seamen has said throughout that the dispute should go to arbitration?

Why will the Government not intervene to help prevent the damage to which she has referred?

Mrs Thatcher: Certainly not. This is a matter in which employers and the employees sort out their own problems in their own way. We are through the era when everything came to No 10 Downing St to be solved.

Telephone tapping report to be published shortly

Lord Diplock's first report on the interception of communications, which has been received by the Prime Minister, would be published shortly, Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said at question time.

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley, Lab): Telephone tapping is interference with the freedom of the individual in a democratic society. To that end, the first report should be published as a matter of urgency since it is 10 months since the review was first announced and in order to avoid charges of a cover-up.

Can he give serious consideration to publishing the subsequent reviews so the matter can be brought under public scrutiny in the House and suspicions about telephone-tapping can be eradicated?

Mr Whitelaw: The Prime Minister made clear Lord Diplock's first report would be published. It will be published shortly. We will consider what Mr Cryer said thereafter.

Mr Percy Grieve (Solihull, C): Bearing in mind the value which will undoubtedly attach to the dispassionate review by Lord Diplock, will he also bear in mind that his first function is the protection of the state and that some measure of telephone-tapping will remain essential to that end whatever government is in power and under whatever circumstances.

Mr Whitelaw: I entirely agree.

Mr George Cunningham, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs (Islington, South, and Finsbury, Lab): This report and the White Paper of the last Parliament related only to the police, customs and excise and the security service which is under his own authority.

In view of recent public allegations, can he assure the House there is no trespassing of the Home Secretary's preserve by any surveillance conducted by any of the services answerable to the Foreign Secretary?

Mr Whitelaw: I have set out my position in previous statements. I have nothing to add to what I said then.

Use of Servicemen in hospitals last resort

House of Lords

The use of Servicemen in the event of an industrial dispute would only take place as a final resort, Lady Young, Minister of State for Education and Science, said during exchanges on whether the Government had issued a confidential circular through the DHSS warning of the possible use of Servicemen in the event of strikes by health service workers.

Lady Young said: Plans to maintain essential life-saving services in the national health service are of long standing and are reviewed from time to time.

The recent unauthorized disclosure to the press of material concerned the latest review of certain plans, details of which must, of course, remain confidential.

Lord Wells-Pestell (Lab): Is she correct when she says that the plans, implying the ones to which I refer, are of long standing? Is it true that recently the DHSS has issued three plans, known as Plan Lionel, Plan Concorde and Plan Bittern, dealing with the use of Service personnel in the event of difficulties?

What has happened to the code of practice which the last Government introduced and got agreed? Does this mean that the Government has decided in the event of a dispute to abandon consultation and replace it by confrontation?

Lady Young: He is not entirely accurate. The timing of the recent review of contingency planning is entirely fortuitous. Work started as long ago as 1979, following upon the industrial action in the early part of that year.

The planning is continuing. It would not be proper for me to comment on the details.

Lord Wells-Pestell: It is a new situation in the sense that the documents to which I am referring have come into being since the Government came into power.

Lady Young: The letter to which he referred is, of course, new. But the contingency planning has been going on since his own Government were in office. There is nothing in principle new in what is happening now.

Lord Wells-Pestell: It is true that, as she has implied, there has been a leak of a confidential circular and that the circular goes on to say: "Security of these documents is paramount. You are in possession of military plans which are highly sensitive. Any disclosure of information contained in these plans would be extremely damaging to the Government's industrial relations policy."

Lady Young: I am not prepared to comment on what might or might not have been in a confidential letter.

The use of servicemen is a serious matter and their deployment must remain under ministerial control. Only in the event that health authorities could not maintain essential services through any other means and when all other means of settling the industrial dispute had been tried and failed, would troops be used as a final resort. They unfortunately had to be used in the winter of 1979, as he will recall.

Lower water charges for hydro-electric power

There were justifiable fears among householders that the criminal fraternity were making increased use of the practice of pretending to be meter readers to gain entry to houses for serious crimes, including murder, Lord Tanlaw (L) said during the report stage of the Energy Conservation Bill.

He moved an amendment to Clause 15 (Grants for the purposes of energy conservation advice schemes) providing that grants could be given to house owners to resite their gas and electricity meters outside the premises.

The Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, said the question of the siting of meters was best left to the boards and the gas corporation to handle as they thought fit, taking into account the interests and wishes of their customers.

The amendment was withdrawn.

Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal (C) moved a new Clause (Use of water power for electricity generation etc) the intention of which was that water authorities should make it easier for water to be used as an alternative or supplementary source of power.

The Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, said the Government believed that there was a defensible case for making only minimal charges for abstraction for hydro-power instead of charging on a volume-related basis.

The Government intended to amend the Bill to require the water authorities to take into account the extent to which in the interests of energy conservation people should be charged for hydro-power abstractions to prevent them from inhibiting abstractions of this kind.

Such an amendment would go a long way towards meeting the entirely legitimate grievancies of water power users.

The amendment was withdrawn and the report stage was concluded.

The Deep Sea Mining (Temporary Provisions) Bill passed the committee stage.

House adjourned, 9.5 p.m.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Employment and Training Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Atomic Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill and Armed Forces Bill, second readings.

Wednesday: Debate on Opposition motion on Government's attack on housing and the building industry.

Thursday: Education (Scotland) (No 2) Bill, second reading.

Friday: Private Members' Bills: Gaelic (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill and Safety of Children in Cars Bill, second readings.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (fourth day).

Tuesday: Contempt of Court Bill, report.

Wednesday: Debate on Mr David Steel's 10-point plan for economic recovery. Debate on continued operation of Concorde.

Thursday: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (fifth day).

Friday: Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (sixth day).

Incomes policy imposed by fear–Mr Steel

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L), said there was a state of total paralysis in the official Opposition.

An opposition which had been crying out for weeks for a debate on the economy had an obligation to put before the House some alternative, but one looked in vain at the amendment for an alternative. The reason was that if Mr Foot had had to put down in the amendment some of the policies outlined in his speech one half of the party or the other would have profoundly disagreed with him.

This state of paralysis allowed the Prime Minister to get away with saying there was no alternative. Mr Foot had called for import controls. There were a number of people whose names appeared in an advertisement in *The Guardian today*, members of the Labour Party, who would not subscribe to that.

It was no part of his programme to support the idea they could be an isolationist centrally-controlled economy ignoring the rest of the world.

The Government was not making minor shifts in the balance of society or the economy but was making fundamental and long term changes in the economy from which it would be extremely difficult to recover.

There needed to be a reduction in interest rates and in the high rate of sterling. There was scope for increasing public investment in the nation's future infrastructure.

The Prime Minister had referred to a new realism in wage bargaining but that was not a new long-term realism. It was an incomes policy through fear. The Government was totally failing in not looking for a greater spread of industrial partnership.

Neither the Government nor the official Opposition would lead the country into the path of partnership and cooperation which was essential for the nation's recovery.

Sir John Eden (Bournemouth West, C) said their lack of competitiveness had been due to the high labour costs. There was no doubt that United Kingdom unit labour costs in manufacturing had been rising by many times those of their competitors in 1978-80. Most of the country's problems stemmed from the low level of productivity.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea North, Lab) said almost any alternative policies would be better than the extreme ones of the present Government. The right remedy today would be a steady reflation of demand, hand-in-hand with effective restraint on money costs. Interest rates should be substantially reduced.

Provided the interest and exchange rates were brought down and costs restrained production would recover and the Chancellor of the Exchequer should in this year's budget relax the squeeze.

He should raise no new taxes other than the special tax on banking profits which was obviously necessary and allow public borrowing to increase so long as the increase was mainly for capital expenditure in the public or private sector.

Mr Cransley Onslow (Woking, C) said developments over the past 18 months had gone a long way to cure some of the deep-seated ills which had made Britain so innefficient and unproductive.

Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C) said that the Conservative Party had pledged at the general election that defence should have the first call on resources. Somehow the Government was able to spend billions on lame ducks; why could it not do that for defence?

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said that there was no middle way. There was the Government's solution at the expense of the people, or the alternative of the economic policies put forward by the Labour Party.

The Labour proposals were not those of an east European state. That wts a slander they were getting used to but it did not come well from the Prime Minister.

She knew that their proposals did not in any way diminish parliamentary democracy but would enhance and develop it.

Mr Stephen Dorrell (Loughborough, C) said that he was concerned that recovery, if it came, was likely to be preempted by inflation. The key problem was that British industry wyas uncompetitive compared with others in the world.

It was better to bring about a devaluation of the exchange rate against the background of a tight domestic market as at present than to wait two years when, it was hoped, the domestic market would be freer and the inflationary consequences of devaluation much greater.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall, North, Lab) said interest rates should be reduced, there should be a more realistic exchange rate, and there should be selective import controls.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee, East, Scot Nat) said the Government should have a new look at apprenticeships, training and retraining. It should be subsidising large numbers of apprentices. Unless that happened there would be a shortage of skilled labour when industries began to pick up.

Mr John Stokes Halesowen and Stourbridge, C) said he saw several hopeful signs. Management was much more on its toes; research, development, design and marketing had been sharpened; overmanning was being dealt with at last; productivity was improving and there was much more realism on the shop floor.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, C), said the Government had crippled industry with unprecedented high interest rates and foreign exchange rates.

There had been a radical reduction in the real level of public expenditure but that cut had been disguised by the inevitable increase in social security payments the Government had had to make to those whose pobs had been destroyed.

It was absurd and tragic that the wealth from North Sea oil and the great accumulated savings of people at work through pension funds and insurance companies should be flowing not into British industry but across the frontiers to help finance firms and businesses abroad that would compete with Britain even more vigorously in future.

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade (Oswestry, C), said the House should be under no illusion that the siren voices that would be increasingly heard would be those of social democracy.

They would be the ones from banking citadels in the City but using a Limehouse accommodation address which would be trying to persuade everyone that there were easy and relatively painless solutions to what they knew to be inherently intractable problems.

Pay settlements were much more in touch with reality as evidence from the CBI data bank showed in the private sector they dropped from an average of 16 per cent in July last to about 10 per cent in October and into single figures in November and December.

There were factors which gave cause for measured optimism about the point at which the recession would bottom out.

It was a nonsense and a travesty to suggest that the Treasury had pursued their policies with a zealous ideology which was impervious to compromize. The monetary and fiscal policy of the Government from the outset was always modest and gradualist.

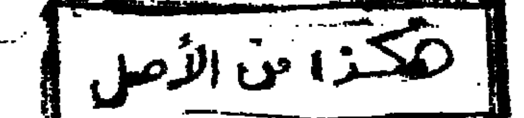
He did not deny that the Government's monetary and fiscal policies might have had some modest short-term transitional impact. (Labour laughter.) But he would not be deterred from placing on record what he knew to be true.

The Opposition amendment was rejected by 309 votes to 240 — Government majority, 69, and the Government motion was agreed to.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 9.30: Private Members' Bills: Freedom of Information Bill and Smaller Businesses (Ministerial and Other Functions) Bill second readings.



THE ARTS

Cinematic magic of Tarkovsky's dreadful vision

Stalker (A)
Academy 1

Story of the Last Chrysanthemums (U)
Gate 3, Camden Town

The Reign of Naples
Electric Cinema

Nine to Five (AA)
Odeon, Leicester Sq

The Formula (AA)
Plaza 1

Prom Night (X)
London release

The Trials of Alger Hiss
Riverside Studios

Andrei Tarkovsky is the Soviet Union's greatest living film-maker but his career has evidently been no great source of comfort or satisfaction to the cultural establishment. His films are all epic in concept (which is acceptable) but they are also enigmatic, inquisitive, sceptical—qualities not favoured in contemporary Soviet art.

Few of Tarkovsky's films since he first burst on the scene with *Ivan's Childhood*, 19 years ago, have had untroubled histories. *Andrei Rublev*, a recreation of the barbarous world in which the fifteenth-century icon painter struggled to create humane art, was shelved for six years. *The Mirror*, a study in autobiography (currently to be seen at the Minema in Knightsbridge), was condemned as "a film crossword puzzle", temporarily shelved, and finally given reluctant and restricted release. Only *Solaris* and now *Stalker* have met relatively few official problems, even though *Stalker*, it might be felt, is the most sceptical of all Tarkovsky's films in its metaphorical implications.

It is loosely based on an episode from a story by two popular Soviet science fiction writers, the Strugatsky Brothers. The anecdote is set in an unspecified but not too distant future, in a world, recognizably Russian, that is dehumanized, decayed, eroded and polluted by senseless, improvident industrialization. "The Zone" is a space that, since some unexplained interplanetary visitation, has remained shut off, forbidden, dangerous. The *Stalker* is one of a race of people who live by penetrating The Zone, guiding people there.

In the original novel the Stalkers were concerned in retrieving, for profit, scientific paraphernalia abandoned in The Zone. For Tarkovsky, the quest is spiritual, for The Zone contains a room where all human desires can be fulfilled. "*My Stalker is the last of the idealists, a man who believes in the possibility of happiness independent of the will or the capabilities of people.*"

The central theme of the film, an adventure in search of confrontation with a man's own soul, is paralleled by *Rublev* and *Solaris*—which both have the same actor, Anatoli Solonitsin, in leading roles. In those films too the central figure is flanked by two other contrasted representatives of humanity—the monks Theophan and Kirill and the dogmatic and the existentialist scientists of *Solaris* have their direct counterparts in The Scientist and The Writer who are Stalker's companions in The Zone. Faced with the prospect of The Room, neither of these two has the spiritual courage to face it. The Writer fears the unworthiness of his most secret desires: The Scientist produces a bomb to destroy the place so that it may not be misused.

More durably impressive than the metaphysical and Dostoevskian odysseys and the metaphorical possibilities (in *Stalker* the characters are torn between two conflicting worlds—East and West perhaps?—that are equally intolerable) is the visual magic of Tarkovsky's cinema. Each film creates its own universe: the beautiful birch woods of *Ivan's Childhood* concealing the deathly menace of the human beast; the violent medieval chaos of *Rublev*.

The future universe of *Stalker* is formed out of the ruins and pollution of the world we know: poisoned landscapes, decayed buildings, foul, incomprehensible mud; putrid water. The most awful vision of all, at the end, after the return from The Zone, is presented by a dead river, overhung by a gigantic black power station. This, we discover, is a real location, a raped, industrialized region of Estonia.

Tarkovsky will be interviewed at the National Film Theatre next Sunday at 3.00 pm.

There is a rare chance to see an equally remarkable film—perhaps, indeed, one of the great classics of world cinema, though until recently it was hardly known in the West. *The Story of the Last Chrysanthemums* is the work of the Japanese director Kenji Mizoguchi (1898-1956), one of the most subtle and sophisticated artists ever to use the medium. Made in 1939 at a time when the Japanese cinema was being largely coerced into the aggressive purposes of the war machine, Mizoguchi's film escaped to the past world of the Meiji era, specifically the 1880s, and the Kabuki theatre.



Aleksandr Kaidanovsky as Stalker (left), Nikolai Grinko as The Professor, Anatoli Solonitsin at The Writer

On the surface it is a romantic tragedy about the life of an actor, Kikunosuke, the heir to a great stage dynasty. He falls in love with a servant girl, Otuku, because she is the only one of his entourage who is honest enough to criticize his acting. When his father dismisses Otuku, Kikunosuke follows her. Forced to work in touring companies, his art is developed through experience and suffering; and years later he rejoins the family theatre, now a great actor. Otuku, realizing that she is now only a burden to him, leaves him. They meet again and are reconciled; but Otuku dies at the moment Kikunosuke is accepting the accolade of a triumphal procession.

In both concerns and style the film is staggeringly modern. It is a truly feminist picture. The portrait of Otuku as the strongest and most intelligent figure in the drama (Kikunosuke, ironically, achieves his triumph as an "oyama" or male actress) provides a vigorous criticism on sexist, social and traditionalist attitudes that were still very prevalent when the film was made, and still survive today, not only in Japan.

Stylistically the film remains unsurpassable. Thirty years *before the West, Mizoguchi in*vented a "cutting-in-shot" style of moving camerawork. Some of his shots last for eight or 10 minutes, the dramatic pointing achieved not by the traditional forms of montage but by the subtle and exact movement and placing of the camera. His travelling shots—as he follows an ambulant conversation or Kikunosuke's panicky search up and down a railway train—are still models of technique.

He is not bound by one style, however. To provide contrast in the scenes of the Kabuki performances, Mizoguchi reverts to the conventional montage methods inherited from Griffith and Eisenstein, and uses them with the same precision, undemonstrative flair and quiet power. Any actor or film-maker should see *The Story of the Last Chrysanthemums* as an essential part of his education. Anyone may enjoy it as a work of art of extraordinary purity, and of delights which survive intact even though the available copies of the film are somewhat misted by the decays of 40 years.

After such riches, attention is inevitably somewhat idly bent on the rest of the week's offerings. As a prominent figure in the German underground cinema, Werner Schroeter made a series of long, absurdist, operatically inspired pictures that hovered between high and low camp. In *The Reign of Naples he goes straight* and commercial; and the film has an awful air of You-mustn't-laugh-I'm-being-serious now about it.

It is also very much like a young West German tourist in search of Naples, with its exotic temperament and colour in search of the nostalgia of Italian neo-realist pictures, and dropping *in* on Political Commitment. The film is an ambitious (not to say very long) panorama of Italian history, as reflected in an improbably wretched and oppressed slum community, between the end of the war and the 1970s. The parents and two children of the Pagano family symbolize social-political conflicts—Church and radical socialism; Communism and the American capitalist dream. The old operatic camp persists—in the various dramatic death scenes and decorative funerals, the whore who trades in a red-flag crimson tent on the streets, or the constant excesses of Neapolitan histrionics—to alienate belief in any scene or character or frame.

Nine to Five is a situation comedy with a lot going for it. It is firmly rooted in the hard reality of every-day office life and in particular the sort of petty executive tyrant that sours the lives of millions of white-collar workers across the world. It has the confidence that thirties comedies had, in taking wing into flights of day-dream absurdity, as our three heroines kidnap and shackle their awful boss and reform the office in his absence. A succession of ironic pay-offs ends with his being kicked upstairs to the Brazilian jungle, disappearing for ever.

The film's greatest strength is a well-teamed comic trio. Jane Fonda—as the divorcee forced into her first job and terrorized by typewriters and photocopiers—complements the dry comedy of Lily Tomlin, all suppressed desperation, and the extraordinary charm of Dolly Parton, a dazzle of bust and bottom and blonde frizz but intimating depths of warmth and concern. This unpretentiously enjoyable film was directed by Colin Higgins from a script he wrote in collaboration with Patricia Resnick.

The Formula is the sort of thing they do in Hollywood: a rash expenditure of money and talent (Marlon Brando reportedly received three millions dollars for three scenes) without anyone apparently able to get right such elementary things as making story, script or characters comprehensible and logical. The director, John G. Avildsen, and the writer, Steve Shagan, both, allegedly, attempted without success to have their names removed from the finished film.

The pity is that it is a perfectly good idea for a political thriller: the murderous machinations of world oil cartels to suppress a wartime secret formula for synthetic fuel. Even had it been better thought out, though George C. Scott would still have laid a heavy hand upon it, in the role of the investigator.

Prom Night dutifully goes through the teenage horror formula established by (inter al) *Carrie*, *Hallowe'en* and *Terror Train*: a dark deed from the past; a "Six Years Later" title; an unidentified avenger axing and slicing his way through a series of smooth-skinned teenage victims. The boyish Jamie Lee Curtis seems indispensable to the *genre*, in which the Canadian cinema has made a small corner. This specimen, no better or worse than the rest, was directed by the British-born Paul Lynch.

It would be more advisable to seek out one of the four special afternoon screenings of *The Trials of Alger Hiss* at Riverside Studios tomorrow and on Sunday and on February 21 and 28. The 166-minute documentary meticulously investigates the espionage and perjury cases on which Richard Nixon climbed to national prominence. It is the first film of John Lowenthal, a lawyer who as a 25-year-old student attended sessions of the Hiss trials. Lowenthal assembles contemporary newsreels and news interviews with surviving participants, and the film includes appearances by the former President Nixon and Alger Hiss himself.

David Robinson

Books

Portrait of the artist as comic genius

The great Irish modernist writer was born in the same year as Eamon de Valera and Wyndham Lewis. But whereas the donnish politics of the one and the violent imagery of the other have faded in the public memory, Joyce is a contemporary figure. *A Portrait of the Artist* is the classic account of a Catholic upbringing; *Ulysses* remains the twentieth-century novel non pareil; *Finnegans Wake* is the Great Unread, and replaces the Great Unwashed in the mythology of an A-level age. Ninety-nine years ago, on February 2, 1882, James Augustine Joyce was born in Dublin.

In the words of his hero in *A Portrait* Joyce chose the weapons of silence, exile, and cunning with which to deal *with his Irish, Catholic*, and lowering middle-class background. His intellectual pride brought him out from the sodality-and-parlour world into which he was born. Unlike Wilde, Shaw and O'Casey, his exile was never English—at Dover en route between Paris and Dublin he pretended not to speak English so as to avoid tipping a porter. His finely *modulated, hyper-conscious* prose isolated him also from the tradition of English literature. Like so many non-Englishmen—W. B. Yeats, Henry James, T. S. Eliot, Ezra Pound—Joyce is in his period pre-eminent in a field almost empty of natives. The Modernist Movement in literature was centred upon a feeling, a desire which might be named in James's words a "religion of foreign things". The settled native, even so restless a native as D. H. Lawrence, only partly apprehended the reality and universality of exile, the necessity of cunning.

Joyce's life is so often seen as the raw material of his essentially cheerful art that it is worth emphasizing his *poverty, estrangement, illness*, and domestic suffering. The irreducible reality of his difficulties should not, in turn, blind us to the obsessive self-centredness of the artist as family-man. No member of his immediate circle escaped from the seventeen-year accumulation of *Work in Progress* without serious emotional injury. As the porter at Dover could testify Joyce was, in the Dublin phrase, a hard man. The guilt engendered in the process of composition entered into the fiction at a deep and subversive level; the joy in life which it radiates was hard earned, and not by the author alone.

Because he so comprehensively *wrote* the dominant psychic *and social crises of western* culture for his age, Joyce has become part of the syllabus, despite himself. Doubtless he would have resented this, not out of any elitist contempt for popular education—hardly a character in the fiction could be acquitted of advertising his modest talents as autodictat—but out of the firm belief that his fiction does not require elaborately ritualized techniques of elucidation. It requires intelligence and a healthy appetite for life with, perhaps, some interest in literature other than his own. The humanity and accessibility of his work is too often passed over in favour of enigmas and hypotheses.

His emotional range of interests is exceedingly wide, and his tolerance absolute. Leopold Bloom, the Jewish-born, Protestant-baptized, Catholic-baptized hero of *Ulysses*, is his type of the ordinary man. No other fictional character has been so fully and comprehensively created in all the minutiae of his feelings and thoughts. This is universally acknowledged, and yet critics stress the *exhaustive* dimension of this creation and not its all-including greatness. There are questions to be asked as to why, in the period of the Great War and in the work of an Irish bourgeois, it was necessary to build up his hero to such an extraordinary degree, but the answers ought to accommodate the magnitude of the achievement as well as the need and the impetus behind it.

Joyce adored coincidence, and went to pains to ensure that he first saw copies of both *Ulysses* and *Finnegans Wake on February 2 (1922 and 1939* respectively). Next year his centenary will be celebrated with symposia and conferences from Dublin to Beirut. It is entirely fitting that one of the principal organizers of the Dublin celebrations should be David Norris, a lecturer in English in Trinity College Dublin (which Joyce definitely did not attend) and chief architect of a campaign to reform Ireland's anti-homosexual laws.

In America, where Joyce's work has been more enthusiastically received than in Britain, several volumes of commemorative essays will be published. In England, the occasion will be marked by a weekend residential conference in Leeds (April 2-4, 1982).

At the *moment it seems* that Joyce lacks the popular appeal of Lawrence. To a considerable extent this results from his notorious unfilmability as a novelist. The Leeds conference will not be restricted to dons and researchers; the range of lectures will reach well beyond any one academic doctrine. Joyce's hundredth birthday should confirm the continuing appeal of a great comic writer and a sympathetic human being.

W. J. McCormack

Marika's Cafe Theatre
Lyric Studio, Hammersmith

Anthony Masters

A baby grand, a feather boa, a bottle of champagne (well, Veuve du Vernay), a skull, an accordion: these are all Marika Rivera needs to recall the Montmartre of her youth. That and yards of black tulle, temperament in abundance, and a curly chestnut wig that makes her look strangely like Louis XIV in lipstick but still leaves her formidable.

"Enter the roundabout of life", she announces in a heavy accent, "life and love . . . joy and misery . . . the soldier and the clown." Connoisseurs of cliché will read the signs at once: an acute case of purple nostalgia in which a script editor will have no part (Miss Rivera is credited as her own director).

Pausing only for a 10-minute historical lecture, she launches into a tour of café personalities from Lautrec and the Goulue to Picasso, relieved by songs from Bruant to Piaf, recitations, and a mime that Isadora Duncan taught her to accompany the *Moonlight* Sonata.

She points each double entendre with an arch grimace, or two if things are going well, but has already reserves of pathos for a Damia song about seagulls who embody the souls of departed sailors, or a vision of Isadora still dancing in a multicoloured cloudscape.

Her *Mistinguette*, weighted with red satin, a ton of feathers and enough pearls to shoot a hundred Duchesses of Malfi, is superb in its *chutzpah*, if uncomfortably close to Jean Fredericks in full drag at the Vauxhall Tavern. And, as the daughter of the artists Marevna and Diego Rivera, she can bring us a personal view of Modigliani's Montparnasse circle which makes up in gush for what it lacks in precision and, as the running time approaches three hours, rewards the audience's good nature with an account of why Soutine never washed and what Picasso did in the sand. Insufficiently enthusiastic listeners, however, may be told: "If you don't like me, eff off. Serve you right. Who cares?" So long as you know.

The New York Shakespeare Festival production of the musical *I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking it on the Road* opens at the Apollo Theatre on March 31 (previews from March 26). The show has book and lyrics by Gretchen Cryer and music by Nancy Ford, and is directed by Word Baker. Diane Langton and Ben Cross lead the cast. It opened in New York in May, 1978, and is still running there; it is also running in Chicago, Los Angeles and Melbourne.

The Suicide
Aldwych

Ned Chaillet

Expanded from the small Warehouse stage into a production fit for the Aldwych, *The Suicide* grows also in stature on the Royal Shakespeare Company's main stage. Rumours drift back from the United States of the lack of success of the American production in which the play was found to be inferior although Derek Jacobi scored a personal success. Obviously something was wrong, but the production by Ron Daniels again demonstrates that the play is splendid and its strengths appear everywhere in the writing, not only in the part of the suicide himself, so triumphantly taken here by Roger Rees.

Judged comically, or simply as a farce, it has the relentless illogic of absurdism. When Semyonovitch wakes his wife to ask for a liver sausage, he starts a chain of events that leads rather crookedly to the graveyard. When she mistakes his nocturnal hunger for a suicide bid, the neighbour she calls in to save him sees the chance to make money and auctions off the suicide to people who want their causes named as the reason. Semyon, who earns a banquet for his despair, then feels obliged to kill himself.

Complications multiply in the text, but they are as nothing compared to the complications in the Soviet Union when both Meyerhold and Stanislavski wanted to do the play. Nikolai *Erdman's plot added a wide* scythe of satire, toppling the pretensions of workers who could justify even voyeurism by calling it Marxist, of godless orthodox priests, of romantic Russian writers and of a whole society. Censors right up to Stalin himself thought it was anti-Soviet and the standard irony remains: had they *authorized production it would* have been transformed into comradely criticism and entertainment and it would not have been left to the RSC to discover its values.

However comical, nothing about the play is frivolous. Against a fraudulent suicide, Erdman sets a real suicide and against Semyon's despair about unemployment—for that topical thing it is—he sets an affirmative belief in the value of life. The play's disconcerting message, for any censor, is Semyon's plea: "Life is easier when you can say that life is hard".

The RSC production is a performance scored with rich vocal colouring. Mr Rees swoops up and down a scale of comedy and feeling, whether drunkenly telephoning the Kremlin, putting a pistol to his heart or reclining in a coffin. Susan Tracy as his wife has kaleidoscopic shifts of expression, moving instantaneously from grief to sudden delight in her funeral hat and the rumbling authority of Lila Kaye as her mother has just the right touch of a whine.



Roger Rees — Photograph by Donald Cooper

It looks as good as it sounds, with Kit *Surrey's jagged line* of grey doorways set off by a vista of grey brick. The doors open like so many surprise packages, to display colourful characters, extravagantly played in the best RSC tradition. Circling in on Semyon, along with the self-declared representative of the intelligentsia played by Edward Petherbridge, is the ethereal beauty, Emily Richard, *competing with the* blatant slut of Shirley King for the favour of a suicide note. They work the rich mine of Erdman's satire for something well beyond a joke at the expense of the Soviet Union. It is rich as well in humanity.

ECO/Leppard
Festival Hall

Stanley Sadie

The delights of hearing the bright, full ring of Kiri Te Kanawa's voice are never to be underrated. And if one went to the Festival Hall on Wednesday to take isolated instants of pleasure in it, there were a lot of them to be had.

But as performances of pieces by Berlioz and Handel, *Miss Te Kanawa's contributions* fell rather short. She was, in a word, miscast. Berlioz's *Nuits d'été* is one of the subtlest soprano items in the entire repertory; it needs not so much a beautiful, creamy voice, but the most assiduous attention to the words, their sounds and their sense, a capacity to lighten the voice almost to gentle speech, and a command of expressive colour, for a start.

Perhaps—there were indications of this—she is not yet familiar with the music at a deep enough level, or fully at home in its elusive idiom. Much as one could relish the sound qua sound, time and again one longed for a more forward delivery, one that permitted a proper articulation of the consonants. The throwaway phrase, needed for example in "Villanelle", is scarcely in her repertory; and when she is asked, as in "Au cimetière", to sing "à un quart de voix", the focus and the evenness tend to fade. There were lovely things, to be sure, like the hint of indolence in "Le spectre de la rose"; but they were not many, and they were isolated.

Handel might have served her better. But her command of the style is limited, and in any case Raymond Leppard, who conducted, set speeds that tested her both interpretatively and technically. Interpretatively in Cleopatra's "V'adoro, pupille" from *Giulio Cesare*: a seduction aria, this, but the performance was matter-of-fact and she rarely had time to deploy her full seductiveness of tone. She sang it too like a well learnt party piece. Cleopatra's "Non disperar", where Handel added a cautionary "ma non troppo" to his Allegro, went like the wind, and became approximate, unrhythmic and ill-tuned. It was sad to hear so justly well-loved a singer misused.

Mr Leppard conducted, first, Handel's *Fireworks Music*, a crackling performance of the overture as far as tempo was concerned, and springy rather than sturdy. I enjoyed the crisp oboes in the bourrée, and the novel but convincing organization of the minuet, but not the intrusive flutes or mannered phrasing of "La paix". Then there was Beethoven's fourth symphony, a delightfully clean, unaffected reading, Haydnesque in temper, vital, energetic, but with a touch of pastoral lyricism in the Adagio and the trio. Under-interpreted, perhaps, in that it was short on tension or mystery or strong feeling; but it did good justice to Beethoven the classicist, and the ECO playing had a welcome polish.

Mitsuko Uchida
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Hilary Finch

She studied in Vienna, she won the Beethoven contest there in 1969, and on Wednesday the Japanese pianist Mitsuko Uchida chose works by Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert composed in that city within 40 years of each other.

In a particularly well-planned programme, as concentrated and unified in musical experience as in timespan, each piece prepared the musical and emotional ground for the next, nurturing and gently cultivating the ear and sensibility. Mozart's A minor Rondo, K511, delicately touched into life, soon revealed, through an exquisitely pianistic *mezza voce*, that depth of dark feeling, albeit recollected in tranquility, so reminiscent of the B minor Adagio.

It led on to Beethoven's last Sonata, the C minor, Op.111. Its long second movement Arietta was deeply absorbed and searchingly thought through: this was the sort of playing which could work its magic only if one allowed oneself (as too many restless spirits around me did not) to surrender to the sense of awed stillness and internal silence which Miss Uchida so tellingly created.

Although she tended to over-pedal some not entirely immaculate passages in the loudest, strongest variation, the first movement maestoso and allegro had already proved her ability to create a sense of power, more bitingly forceful than weighty, through the sharp energy which shot through her firmly controlled fingerwork.

One of his most intimate and pianistically self-effacing sonatas, Schubert's G major (D 894), was played with that same sense of almost cathartic stillness. It was at times as if the music was coming from behind a fine gauzy veil: indeed, particularly in the neatly footed last movement, I should have liked the focus sharpening a little.

But there was much to relish and remember: the perfectly judged weighting of each chord in the first movement, the way in which, in high octave passages, Miss Uchida would magic away the shrillness of the Steinway's top register by subtly weighting the lower note, and the rocking recollections of the Schöne Müllerin's lullaby which she drew from the third movement Trio.

Holmes/Brymer/Wilde
Wigmore Hall

Paul Griffiths

We are entering another period of musical centenary fever, with Bartok to be remembered this year and Stravinsky next. The Stravinsky Festival has already brought us premature celebrations, and a few Bartok concerts are to be expected next month, when the big day falls. But the little chamber concert at the Wigmore Hall on Wednesday had the happy idea of commemorating both composers at once and with them a third, Enescu, another child of Bartok year.

The work chosen was his second violin sonata, written when he was 20 and played here by Ralph Holmes, who studied with the composer. It did not come over as a remarkable work, perhaps in part because Mr Holmes was so mild-mannered in his treatment of it. A more persuasive and urgent artist might have made more of the first movement, rambling between salon and countryside, and also of the final fast rondo, which needed more bite. However, Mr Holmes, and David Wilde, his accompanist, did score in the slow movement, a beautiful piece of introspection in repose which leaves the violin alone at the end, spinning insignificant little phrases while the piano climbs softly round the keyboard to a halt.

Mr Holmes's *reticence and* delicacy were also effective throughout Bartok's second sonata, which needs no emphasis of its strangeness, dynamism and irony. The harmonics of the first movement were wonderfully stable and therefore more than usually eerie, the drooping phrases easy and natural, the accompaniment *from Mr Wilde sonorous* in a rather Debussy-like manner that fitted well, and, if there was a conflict in the second movement between the violin's light charm and the piano's briskness, that served only to fuel the work towards a strong close.

Neither of the trio pieces, with Jack Brymer, worked quite so well. Bartok's *Contrasts* needs three distinctive and powerful personalities to be joined in struggle if the promise of the title is not to seem like an excuse for miscalculation. Some poor ensemble only added to the loose impression. Stravinsky's *Soldier's Tale* suite had technical faults, too, but it also had more punch and character, and I particularly liked Mr Holmes's puny stridency in the waltz, as of someone determined to play a part too big for him.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Cricket

Fast bowlers' length and line save day for West Indies

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Port of Spain, Feb 5

Even taking into account their shortage of practice, especially against fast bowling, England are unlikely to have a much better chance of beating West Indies than they had yesterday whether in a one-day international or a five-day Test match. The pitch was of more use to English spin than West Indian speed and West Indies were without Richards, who is such a substantial part of their batting.

To the West Indians goes every credit for sticking at it after being bowled out for 127 and seeing England get to within fewer than 50 runs of winning with six wickets still in hand. Almost always, it seems, one of their four fast bowlers has an on-day. This time it was Croft, with the remarkable figures of six wickets for 15 runs, 10 of these runs coming in the sixth of his nine overs.

It was not that Croft was especially fast. On that pitch no one was; but bowling as he does from so wide of the crease he allows the batsmen little respite, usually slanting the ball in at them and occasionally making one straighten off the pitch from leg to off.

One of the least playable balls I ever saw was bowled by Croft to Greg Chappell in a Test match in Brisbane on a perfect batting pitch and with Chappell well past his hundred. Bowled from somewhere near the return crease, it pitched on Chappell's middle stump and hit the off, having moved in at him in the air. There is no playing those—and Bairstow got one yesterday of much the same breed.

I happen to think that Croft gets away with a lot of no-balls, not on the front foot but by breaking the return crease with his back foot; but that is for the umpires to decide. No-balls swung the balance yesterday; West Indies bowled none, England bowled four and West Indies won by two runs.

It is here in Port of Spain, where England play Trinidad on Saturday and West Indies in the first Test tomorrow week, that they are most likely to find another pitch like yesterday's. Although from the way it played it was apparently no knowing it from the way it played in last weekend's Shell Shield match between Trinidad and Barbados. Assuming it is as slow as ever, and scarcely more durable, it may provide England with their best chance of bowling West Indies out twice. In a low-scoring match the awful slowness with which West Indies bowl their overs would also be a less effective ploy.

We left behind in St Vincent this morning a people still reeling, in more senses than one, from the excitement of yesterday's finish.

The result made a lot of them ungovernably happy. It had not occurred to me until Old said so at the airport that when he went in yesterday with five runs needed for an English victory, he was playing his first innings of the tour. However, if that is indicative of one of England's present problems, it does not follow, unfortunately, that in five or six weeks time Holding and company will be being taken care of.

The signs yesterday were not all bad. England fielded as though they have been practising hard; in his first five overs Old conceded only two scoring strokes, both straight drives for four by Haynes; Stevenson had a useful day, and Emburey and Willey bowled well, Willey surprisingly so. Botham played just the innings demanded of him after a start of 15 for four, though he will blame himself for not having stayed to see England home, and more specifically perhaps for having allowed Kallicharran, with gentle off breaks, to bowl 10 overs for only 25 runs.

Botham's frustration at being unable to get after Kallicharran—it was to help that he had been struck a painful blow on the foot by Holding—was evident when, in a moment of madness, he attempted a backhanded sweep. Gower showed that he is learning to accept the responsibilities that go with being England's No 4; this time Gooch was the one to get himself out, chasing one of the few overpitched balls that came the batsmen's way. The length and line of the West Indian bowlers, quite as much as their speed, saved them the day.

WEST INDIES

D. L. Haynes c Emburey b [illegible] 34
S. F. A. Bacchus c Stevenson b [illegible]
[illegible] Mattis run out [illegible]
A. I. Kallicharran c Lloyd b [illegible]
C. H. Lloyd c Willey b Stevenson [illegible]
H. A. Gomes b Willey [illegible]
D. A. Murray b Gooch [illegible]
A. M. E. Roberts st Bairstow b [illegible]
J. Garner run out [illegible]
M. A. Holding b Botham [illegible]
C. E. H. Croft not out [illegible]
Extras (lb 4, w 1, nb 3) [illegible]
Total (47.2 overs) 127

FALL OF WICKETS: [illegible]

BOWLING: [illegible]

ENGLAND

G. Boycott c Mattis b Croft [illegible]
G. A. Gooch c Lloyd b Roberts [illegible]
P. Willey c Murray b Croft [illegible]
D. I. Gower c [illegible] b Garner [illegible]
[illegible] Kallicharran [illegible]
R. O. Butcher c Murray b Croft [illegible]
I. T. Botham c Haynes b Croft 60
D. L. Bairstow b Croft [illegible]
J. E. Emburey b Holding [illegible]
G. B. Stevenson [illegible]
C. M. Old not out [illegible]
Extras (lb 5) [illegible]
Total (48.2 overs) 125

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—14, 2—14, [illegible] 8—114, 9—123, 10—125.

BOWLING: Roberts [illegible]; Holding [illegible]; Garner [illegible]; Croft [illegible]; Kallicharran 10—[illegible]—25—[illegible]; Gooch [illegible].

Umpires: D. Archer and S. Mohammad.



Jeavons : a strapping newcomer to the England squad.

Rugby Union

England selectors may give Cooke a second chance

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

When England's selectors assemble this weekend to choose their side for the Calcutta Cup match against Scotland at Twickenham on February 21, they must make at leastone change, at loose-head prop, because of Fran Cotton's retirement. They may also debate at some length how to dispose thir resources at loose forward in order to achieve a greater physical presence at the lineout.

The second requirement throws into sharper focus the addition of Nick Jeavons, of Moseley, to the 30-strong national squad, and we might find him winning a first cap when the team is announced on Monday morning. He stands 6ft 4in, weighs 16stone and covers the ground remarkably fast for a man of his strapping physique.

No doubt the selectors thought that one new cap, David Cooke, was enough to throw into the Cardiff cauldron against Wales. They had the option to play Mike Rafter instead of Cooke on the open-side flank but decided instead to have the Bristol flanker on the blind side.

In a match which proved difficult for the England loose trio this arrangement worked well enough in defensive terms; but there can be no doubt that Maurice Colclough's efforts at No. 4 in the lineout were not helped by the absence, for most of the match, of Cotton in front of him or by that of Roger Uttley, who was so adept at picking up ball that eluded the middle-of-the-line jumper or disrupting machinery on long opposition throws.

A home match provides, in theory at least, an easier environment to blood another new player. If the selectors decide to pitch Jeavons into the big time, they would have a difficult decision to make between Cooke and Rafter for the open-side flank. Cooke has an edge in pace, Rafter a clear one in experience. I suspect that the selectors might feel that Cooke deserves a further chance to earn his spurs.

Gordon Sargent, of Gloucester, an England B player, was the reserve loose-head prop before the departure of Cotton, but the recall of Colin Smart, who won three caps in 1979, has changed the picture. Smart is said to be playing very well for Newport, and the selectors seem likely to be influenced by a combination of his proven scrummaging ability and the comforting solidarity he can bring to other areas such as the lineout.

In other respects the selectors will probably leave things as they are. However, after giving due weight to all the points "Dusty" Hare scored in Cardiff last month—as well as those which contributed so much to last season's grand slam—they will become distinctly uneasy about the full back position if, directly or indirectly, he gives away as many as he did against Wales.

Waiting in the wings is Marcus Rose, a full back of really exciting potential; but his time at Cambridge University, for good reasons, may have encouraged him to flirt with danger a bit too much. On the evidence of the national trial in January he still has to prove that he can be totally secure on the big occasions.

When Roland Bertranne plays against Ireland in Dublin tomorrow he will—by Gallic reckoning—eclipse Benoit Dauga's record of 63 caps for France against all countries. Dauga is the present French record holder with 50 caps in matches against countries of the International board. Bertranne will equal this if he plays throughout the championship.

Chappell undecided

Sydney, Feb 5.—Greg Chappell, the Australian cricket captain, said today he had not yet made up his mind whether to tour England later this year. Chappell was commenting on a Sydney newspaper report that he had told close friends he would not be available.—Reuter.

Tennis

Hutchins has three British places to fill

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Britain's 2—1 win over Czechoslovakia at Huddersfield on Wednesday evening has put them in a strong negotiating position for tomorrow's away leg of this King's Cup play-off. The result will decide who finishes fifth and sixth in the eight-strong first division of this European indoor competition, but what is more important about these matches is that they give players and selectors a chance to sort out their Davis Cup teams.

Czechoslovakia have no immediate problems because Ivan Lendl and Tomas Smid, who were not in action at Huddersfield, must be automatic singles choices for their defence of the Davis Cup. Britain, who play Italy at Brighton from March 6 to 8, can be sure of nothing except that Christopher Mottram will play singles. Paul Hutchins the national team manager, is still looking for a second singles player and a doubles pair.

In beating Pavel Slozil 6—2, 6—3, at Huddersfield, Mottram did what was expected of him and did it well. In saving three match points and beating Stanislav Birner 2—6, 7—6, 6—2, Richard Lewis did not—overall—play particularly well, but he again demonstrated that he can be a resilient competitor. His challengers for the second singles place are Jonathan Smith, who is not yet fit enough to be risked in King's Cup singles, John Feaver, Robin Drysdale, and possibly Andrew Jarrett.

The Huddersfield doubles did nothing to advance the claims of Jarrett and Smith. They were beaten 6—3, 6—3 by Slozil and Jaroslav Navratil, who are not in the same class as Britain's likely Davis Cup opponents, Paolo Bertolucci and Adriano Panatta. Jarrett may be a reasonable choice for the advantage court, but in doubles, as in singles, Smith has something to prove. At the age of 33 David Lloyd cannot be regarded as a long-term investment, but that kind of thinking does not govern the choice of Davis Cup teams. He may still be Britain's best choice for the deuce court, perhaps renewing his partnership with Mottram.

At present Lloyd is out of favour with Hutchins, who reckons Lloyd let the side down three weeks ago by withdrawing at the last minute from the team about to fly to Moscow for a King's Cup tie. Hutchins, though, respects the political views that eventually outweighed Lloyd's intense patriotism and he may decide to break up the Jarrett-Smith pairing. Lloyd could be the key to the whole argument if he states his case quickly and cogently. Looking further ahead, Hutchins sees Jeremy Bates, aged 18, as a threat to the senior players. "Bates is probably learning more quickly than any other British player in the six years I have been manager," he said.

The team chosen for Brighton will face an unenviable task. In the past five years Italy have won the Davis Cup once and have been runners-up three times. Corrado Barazzutti, Panatta and Bertolucci are formidably experienced and still in their prime. In addition, they now have Gianni Ocleppo, aged 23, to keep them on their toes.

RESULTS (Britain beat Czechoslovakia 2—1): C. Mottram beat P. Slozil, 6—2, 6—3; R. Lewis beat S. Birner, 2—6, 7—6, 6—2; Slozil and J. Navratil beat A. Jarrett and J. Smith, 6—3, 6—3. Other results: Austria 2, Hungary 1; West Germany 2, USSR 1; Sweden 3, Finland 0.

Nastase sent off for making rude gestures

Toronto, Feb 5.—Ilie Nastase was disqualified from a $500,000 tournament last night after a protracted argument with the umpire.

Nastase was trailing 6—1, 1—0 to John McEnroe in their opening round-robin match when the Romanian began to argue with the umpire, Carl Allison. Mr Allison warned Nastase twice and penalized him a point for each warning. A penalty of one game followed when the Romanian continued to argue. Then Mr Allison disqualified Nastase after he had made what tournament organizers said they considered obscene gestures.

Lee Allard, the chief referee, said—Mr Allison issued the disqualification on the basis of the grand prix code of conduct. Five separate warnings were given, leading to the disqualification under rules dealing with audible and visible obscenities, he said. Mr Allison's decision had the full support of the tournament committee, Mr Allard added.

Sandy Mayer outplayed Bjorn Borg, but he failed to outplay the world's no 1, who won 6—4, 3—6, 6—2. Playing before a crowd of about 1,500 at Maple Leaf Gardens, Borg started slowly against Mayer before breaking his service twice in the third set to win the match.

Borg had to rely on several backhand passing shots down the line to seal his victory over the hard-serving Mayer, who is ranked 51st on the Association of Tennis Professionals computer list. "I didn't find the rhythm on my serve today", the Swede said. "I had too many double faults. Luckily, I was hitting the ball well to the back court and had some good passing shots."

Mayer, who is coming back from a painful wrist injury he received in 1979, said the match was a sign of his improvement. "It's humbling to some extent to lose to Borg", Mayer said. "But I was happy with my serve because I'm still trying to put myself back together and start beating the guys I used to beat—let alone someone like Borg."

Vitas Gerulaitis beat Johan Kriek 6—3, 4—6, 6—3. The match featured wild and sloppy play spiced with flashes of brilliance from both players. Gerulaitis missed a number of opportunities in the second set while Kriek blew three break points in the first game of the third set.

RESULTS: B. Borg (Sweden) beat S. Mayer (US), 6—4, 3—6, 6—2; V. Gerulaitis (US) beat J. Kriek (S Africa), 6—3, 4—6, 6—3; J. Connors (US) beat W. Fibak (Poland), 6—3, 6—4; J. McEnroe (US) beat I. Nastase (Romania), 6—1, 1—0, disqualified.—Reuter and AP.

Welsh half-backs are fit

The Welsh half-backs, Gareth Davies and Brynmor Williams, have been passed fit to face Scotland at Murrayfield tomorrow. They survivied a hard training period in Cardiff before the team flew to Edinburgh.

Davies, the Cardiff stand-off half, whose tactical kicking was a dominant factor when Wales beat England 21—19 last month, was doubtful with a recurrence of the knee injury that he first received on the Lions tour of South Africa last year. He did not play for a fortnight after the England match and, after appearing for Cardiff at Llanelli last Saturday, pulled out of training on Sunday.

Williams, who made his first home appearance against England because of the shoulder injury to Terry Holmes, the first-choice scrum-half, also suffered an injury last Saturday, when he hurt a calf muscle in Swansea's game with Abertillery, but responded to daily treatment this week. Both men passed tests yesterday morning before training with the others for 90 minutes at the National Stadium.

Geoff Wheel, the Swansea back and captain, came off with a leg strain against Abertillery, but he proved his fitness again yesterday. The Welsh coach, John Lloyd, said: "It is not going to be easy in Scotland—to win we have to work hard and well. We need more fluency behind the scrum than we showed against England."

There was good news for Scotland, too, because their flanker, Jim Calder, confirmed his recovery from a septic knee which kept him out of his club's game last weekend.

The Ireland coach, Tom Kiernan, put the team through a gruelling two-hour practice. Particular emphasis was laid on scrummaging Phil Orr, a prop, who has been troubled by an injury he received in the final trial, and Alfred McLennan, the left wing, who has had a calf muscle injury, were both passed fit and will take their places against France at Lansdowne Road. John O'Driscoll, the London Irish skipper, will fly back from the game to lead his club against Blackheath at Sunbury on Sunday.

Burgess accepted

The Burgess Report on English rugby's future has been accepted in principle by Bristol. Peter Colston, the club chairman said yesterday: "We have appreciated it isn't as terrifying as some of our members thought at first."

Football

Leicester's proposed changes win support

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

A proposal that points should be awarded to teams leading at half time, at the end, and for winning is gaining support, though probably not sufficient to be accepted at next Monday's extraordinary general meeting of the Football League in Solihull.

The system, devised by Leicester City, and supported by, among others, Ipswich Town, would see the side scoring most goals in the first half receive two points. There would be two more points for the team scoring most goals in the second half, and a bonus of two points for the overall winners. If the scores were level at half time, both sides would receive a point, as they would if the eventual result was a draw.

A more simple, though still controversial proposal, by the Leagu's management committee, is for three points for a win and one for a draw. There is expected to be fairly widespread support for this system, but others are likely to be mentioned, including the awarding of a maximum 12 points with three for a win and one for a draw in each half and six for an overall win and two for a draw.

Although there are doubts about the League's own proposal because a larger differential may not be justified when matches are closely contested, the secretary, Graham Kelly, says that it should contribute towards "putting adventure and flair back into the game and taking fear out". Leicester believe their proposal would increase the likelihood of just such adventurous football, with an added incentive for those scoring more goals.

Alan Bennett, the Leicester general secretary, said yesterday that at the time of the League's seminar last year there appeared to be considerable support for the idea of three points for a win. Indeed, it had been assumed that the proposal stood a much better chance of success than a variety of others designed to help football recover from declining attendances and failing finances.

He claims that enthusiasm has subsided and now believes that the League's proposal will not be accepted. Furthermore, he has doubts whether his own club's scheme will gain enough support to be put in action next season. Should he be right in thinking that the suggestions put forward at the seminar are rejected, the points system would remain as it is. There is a body of opinion claiming that tampering with the points could lead to further experiments being carried out at a later date, as happened in cricket.

Opponents of the League's system suggest that it may have quite the opposite effect from that intended, with teams taking the lead playing even more defensively to ensure three points rather than the present two. Whether it will help eradicate an attitude so many away teams hold—that of defending the point with which they always start—only a season under a different plan will tell. Attitude remains the key.

Here is how the current top and bottom of the first division would look under the proposed systems. The four figures are: matches played, two points for a win, three points for a win, and the Leicester system.

Top				
Ipswich	27	40	55	104
Aston Villa	28	40	57	104
Liverpool	28	36	48	94
Southampton	28	33	46	88
West Bromwich	27	33	45	83
Arsenal	28	33	44	83
Tottenham	28	32	44	84
Bottom				
Birmingham	28	24	32	67
Brighton	28	20	28	61
Norwich	28	20	27	56
Leicester	28	16	23	54
Crystal Palace	28	15	20	52

Ban rules McMahon out of Everton's cup match

Everton's young midfield player, Steve McMahon, is out of the fifth round FA Cup match with Southampton at the Dell tomorrow week. McMahon was suspended for two matches by an FA disciplinary committee in Manchecter yeterday after reaching 20 point.

The suspension also rules him out of the game with Aston Villa at Goodison Park tomorrow.

Everton's manager Gordon Lee said: 'It is a pity that the boy has to miss the cup game but we had a fair hearing."

Nottingham Forest's manager Brian Clough is ready to consider offers for at least three of his senior players. In addition to the Northern Ireland international O'Neill, who was placed on the transfer list last week, Lloyd is also up for sale and it is understood that Mr Clough will be willing to listen to offers for McGovern and Needham.

John Bond, the Manchester City manager, has failed to sign his son Kevin, the transfer-listed Norwich defender. American club, Seattle Sounders are now having talks with Norwich, who are expected to receive Steve Buttle, an English-born winger, and a substantial fee in exchange for Bond early next week.

Crystal Palace, bottom of the first division, bring back two of their unsettled internationals for tomorrow's match away to the first division leaders, Ipswich Town. Murphy and Walsh are recaalled in place of Palace's captain, Cannon, and Sealy, both automatically banned after being sent off in last week's 2—0 defeat at Middlesbrough.

Murphy, a Republic of Ireland midfield player, comes in to allow Lovell to deputize for Cannon in defence, and Walsh, a Welsh striker, replaces Sealy in the forward line.

Murphy has just recovered from a leg injury, but Hilaire (ankle) and Francis (influenza) are still not fit, so the new manager, Dario Gradi, has added a reserve defender, Banfield, to the party. He has yet to play in the league side, and is likely to start as substitute.

Gennoe keeps his place in goal—but it will be his last match for Palace unless Mr Gradi can agree terms with Southampton for his permanent transfer. His one month's loan at Selhurst Park ends this weekend.

St Mirren, knocked out of the Scottish Cup by Dumbarton, have been told by the Scottish Football Association that they cannot meet Arsenal at Love Street next Saturday. The SFA have refused their permission because the game would clash with Morton's fourth round match against Aberdeen on the same afternoon.

Morton, based in Greenock, 15 miles from St Mirren's Paisley ground, did not lodge an official complaint, but they had expressed fears that Arsenal's appearance near by could effect their attendance. Arsenal, also idle after their FA Cup defeat by Everton, will now consider switching the match to the Sunday.

Aston Villa's 29-year-old midfield player, Cropley, has rejected a move to Oxford United, of the third division. Talks were reopened yesterday but broke down when Cropley could not agree terms.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

FOURTH DIVISION: Doncaster Rovers v Northampton Town; Southend United v Hereford United; Tranmere v Bournemouth.

RUGBY UNION: Club matches: Bath v Rosslyn Park (7.15); Bedford v London Welsh (7.15); Bristol v Gloucester (7.0); Edinburgh Wanderers v Glamorgan Wanderers; Heriot's F.P. v Cardiff (2.30); Kelso v Gala (6.0); Nottingham v RAF (7.15); Swansea v Penarth (7.0).

Athletics

Inclusion of Coe lifts British spirits

Sebastian Coe makes a break from his studies at Loughborough University to run for Britain in the indoor athletics international against East Germany at Cosford next Wednesday. It is almost certain to be Coe's only indoor outing for his country this season but his inclusion will encourage the team. Britain sent one of their strongest teams to West Germany last week but were soundly beaten in both the men's and women's matches.

Coe, who won the AAA indoor 3,000 metres title last month, has been selected for the 800 metres—an event in which he is the world record holder. There were only two successes for Britain's men in the six track events in Dortmund but Coe should help to beat that tally at Cosford. Gordon Rimmer of the RAF and Jim Espir (Shaftesbury) have been brought in to run the 1,500 metres in place of Colin Reitz and Ken Newton.

Roger Hackney, who was unable to run in West Germany, comes in for Glyn Harvey and teams up with Richard Callan (Leicester) in the 3,000 metres. Ainsley Bennett (400 metres) and Mark Holton (60 metres hurdles) who both pulled out of that first international, are selected again and, along with Coe and Hackney, will add valuable experience to the team.

Mark Naylor in buoyant mood after beating the leading high jumpers last week, knows he faces the toughest task of all the home athletes. "I was very surprised to beat the West Germans last week because Dietmar Mogenburg and Andre Schnieder are both 2.30 (7 ft 6½ in) metres men and I have been experimenting with my technique", he said.

Aston Moore, of Birchfield, wants to concentrate on his speciality event, the triple jump, so Roy Mitchell, of Enfield, steps in to fill the vacant long-jump place.

The women's team shows only three changes. Debra Warner and Beverley Kinch, both teenagers, win their places after impressive performances for the English schools team in Paris. Miss Warner from Radley wins her first full international vest in the 60 metres and Miss Kinch, from Ipswich, is paired with Harlow's Sandra Green in the long jump.

The most interesting newcomer is Alison Wright, who will compete in the 1,500 metres. Miss Wright runs for Edinburgh Southern and although she comes from New Zealand, she is applying for British citizenship and therefore gains selection.

MEN: 60 metres: S. Clarke (Herne Hill Harriers), M. Powell (Shaftesbury). 400m: A. Bennett (Birchfield), C. Hamilton (Sale). 800m: S. Coe (Loughborough), M. Whittingham (Herne Hill Harriers). 1,500m: G. Rimmer (RAF), J. Espir (Shaftesbury). 3,000m: R. Callan (Leicester), R. Hackney (Aldershot and Farnham). 60m hurdles: M. Holtom (Wolverhampton and Bilston), P. Kelly (Wolverhampton and Bilston). Shot: M. Winch (Blackheath), S. Rodhouse (Southampton). High jump: M. Naylor (Hillingdon), R. Charles (London University). Long jump: R. Mitchell (Enfield), T. Wade (Thames Valley). Triple jump: A. Moore (Birchfield), D. Purkins (Sparkhill). Pole vault: B. Hooper (Woking), K. Stock (Haringey).

WOMEN: 60m: W. Hoyte (Hounslow), D. Warner (Radley). 400m: V. Elder (Havering), L. Forsythe (Wolverhampton and Bilston). 800m: L. Ake (Coventry), K. McDermott (Loughborough). 1,500m: G. Dainty (Birchfield), A. Wright (Edinburgh Southern). 60m hurdles: S. Strong (Stretford), Y. Wray (Shrewsbury). Shot: A. Littlewood (Cambridge), V. Head (Bristol). High jump: A.-M. Cording (Bedford), L. Miller (Chelmsford). Long jump: B. Kinch (Ipswich), S. Green (Harlow).

Boxing

Cowdell faces world No 1 contender

Pat Cowdell, the British featherweight champion from Warley, can go from nothing to a world-title chance if he wins his bout at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on March 9.

Cowdell, who is not ranked in the world's top 10 meets Bashew Sibaca, of South Africa, the official number one contender for the World Boxing Association title. It is a considerable gamble for Sibaca. He is risking his championship status and may be underestimating Cowdell, who has lost only once as a professional and was one of Britain's best amateurs during the 1970s. It has cost Ron Gray, Cowdell's manager and the Wolverhampton promoter £9,000 in purse and expenses to bring Sibaca, nine times South African champion, to Wolverhampton.

Mr Gray said yesterday: "This must be the best chance of Pat's career, and if he wins I shall certainly press for him to replace Sibaca as the number one. Since the WBA insist that their champions defend the world title every six months, Pat will then stand a very good chance of being in the right place at the right time."

Cowdell has turned down nominations to meet Robert Castanon, of Spain, for the European title, because the bout was scheduled for Leon in Spain. "It was not that I did not want him to fight abroad." Mr Gray said, "It was that this was the champion's home town and the circumstances and the pressure there make certain that the visitor does not win. Pat's chances of getting a points verdict there would be nil".

Mr Gray added that there would be no possibility of turning down a bout abroad if the world title was at stake.

The light-heavyweight contest between the two world champions, Mustapha Muhammad and Saad Muhammad, scheduled for Madison Square Garden is off; the eKn Norton-Gerry Cooney heavyweight bout is being moved to another venue.

Basketball

One foul shot too many

By Nicholas Harling
Crystal Palace 93 Team Fiat 95

Come tomorrow week there should be a new name on the National League trophy, that of Team Fiat, who last night in as dramatic a first division game as the National Recreation Centre has ever witnessed virtually relieved Crystal Palace of their hold on the title.

Fiat's 95—93 victory in overtime means they have only to win one of their three remaining games and with all respect to Stockport Belgrade, their opponents at the Aston Villa sports centre on February 14, the task should be a formality in the first of those fixtures.

Palace could have battled no harder to extend their remarkable run of 55 home league victories, but if they had become blasé at the prospect of winning the trophy awarded by Rotary Watches, the league's sponsors, for the fifth time in six years they showed no signs. Against the odds they took the game into overtime only then to squander one foul shot too many through Lloyd, their captain.

Stimpson could have won the game for Palace with two seconds left of normal time but he should not be blamed too harshly for the two free throws that went astray for the home side really needed to win by four points or more to stand a realistic chance of remaining champions. Beaten 98-94 in the first meeting last October, Palace knew they had to win by a bigger margin should the points aggregate in the two games between the clubs have been taken into account, which would have been the case had they both lost one match.

By completing the double however and prolonging their own undefeated record Fiat ensured they could put the issue beyond such delicate arguments. They started with supremely well organized and literally giant zone defence, the master ploy of their player coach White who was to play no small part in its success. With the considerable help and aggression of Stroeder and Samson Fiat managed to cut out the supply of passes from Byrd, but it was only when Stimpson lost the knack of seeking his long range shots that Palace conceded their last ace.

When Roma was fouled out and Bett, his replacement led off court for dangerous play on White, Palace seemed to have only their courage left. It was enough to help them pull back a four point deficit in the last 23 seconds before they lost the game and most probably their championship in the extra five minutes.

Scorers: Palace: Byrd 29, Stimpson 23, Roma 19; Fiat: White 27, Stroeder 27, Samson 16.

Leading positions

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Crystal Palace	17	15	2	1667	1506	30
Team Fiat (Brmnghm)	15	15	0	1434	1240	30
Ovaltine (H Hmpstd)	14	9	6	1315	1175	18
Sunderland	14	8	6	1277	1192	16

Hockey

South subdue the East, now look North to the West

By Joyce Whitehead
East 1 South 2

An early goal by Robyn Robertson (Hertfordshire) raised the hopes of the East at Ipswich yesterday. East needed to win their last match to be second in the territorial championship with a possibility of a tie for first place. But before half-time, with the East goalkeeper Julie Cook (Suffolk) on the ground, and another defender backing up, South were awarded a penalty stroke which Katie Dodd, the South's captain from Berkshire, converted.

Then Sandra Lister (Sussex) shot home after the ball came out from a mêlée near the circle. East pressed, but could not equalize.

Valerie Robinson (Hertfordshire), was back in the side but only lasted half the game before retiring with a pulled muscle. Susan Williams (Kent) took her place. The South played Susan Kelly (Hampshire) in place of Mandy Franks (Middlesex), who is injured, and Diane Grist (Hampshire) changed with Lesley Randolph (Berkshire) on the South forward line at half-time.

East have three points, the same as the Midlands, while South have six. If West could win at York tomorrow against North, they would have three points and South would be left in first place with North in second. North need to draw with West to share the title, and a win would make them champions.

The England team will be announced after the North v West match.

EAST: J. Cook (Suffolk); A. Appleyard (Kent), J. Cardwell (Suffolk, captain), M. Daly (Hertfordshire), V. Dixon (Cambridgeshire), C. Imber, R. Robertson, V. Robinson (Hertfordshire), J. Jurischka (Kent), S. Roberts, H. Bray (Suffolk).

SOUTH: P. Gibbon (Berkshire); D. Richardson (Surrey), S. Kelly (Hampshire), A. Baker (Sussex), K. Dodd (Berkshire, captain), S. Fryer, S. Lister (Sussex), J. Walsh (Hampshire), L. Hobley (Buckinghamshire), L. Randolph (Berkshire), S. Harding (Middlesex).

Umpires: M. Harris and B. Bradford.

Motor racing

Piquet's first round at pointless Kyalami

Kyalami (South Africa), Feb 5.—Nelson Piquet, of Brazil, today renewed his rivalry with world champion Alan Jones by setting the fastest lap in the first official practice for Saturday's South African Grand Prix.

Piquet, who was second to the Australian in the drivers' championship, drove his Brabham round the 4.1 kilometre (2.5 mile) circuit in 1min 12.94sec—almost a second quicker than Jones, who had the third fastest time of 1:13.78. Second fastest was Jones's Williams teammate Carlos Reutemann, who clocked 1:12.98 in dry, humid conditions. Before practice Jones told reporters: "I think the main challenge for my title will come from Reutemann."

The South African Grand Prix, without some of the world's top drivers because of a dispute between FISA and FOCA, the two controlling bodies, has been designated an "open formula" event with no points counting towards the world championship, according to FISA. Major teams missing include Ferrari, Ligier, Renault and Alfa Romeo.

Desiré Wilson, the only woman to win a formula one race, made an inauspicious reappearance in her native country. The British-based South African spun her Tyrrell in the first unofficial session then repeated her mistake during the timed run and damaged her car.

Nigel Mansell, of Britain, finished an impressive fifth in his Lotus with 1:14.38.

TIMES: 1, N. Piquet (Brazil), Brabham, 1:12.94; 2, C. Reutemann (Argentina), Williams, 1:12.98; 3, A. Jones (Australia), Williams, 1:13.78; 4, E. de Angelis (Italy), Lotus, 1:14.00; 5, N. Mansell (Britain), Lotus, 1:14.38; 6, K. Rosberg (Finland), Fittipaldi, 1:14.45; 7, R. Zunino (Argentina), Tyrrell, 1:14.71; 8, A. de Cesaris (Italy), McLaren, 1:14.91; 9, J. Lammers (Netherlands), ATS, 1:14.93; 10, E. Cheever (US), Tyrrell, 1:14.95; 11, R. Patrese (Italy), Arrows, 1:15.05; 12, C. Serra (Brazil), Fittipaldi, 1:15.06; 13, J. Watson (Britain), McLaren, 1:15.25; 14, D. Wilson (South Africa), Tyrrell 1:16.56; 15, M. Surer (Switzerland), Ensign, 1:16.65; 16, S. Stohr (Italy), Arrows, 1:16.16; 17, D. Daly (Ireland), March, 1:16.80; 18, G. Lees (Britain), Theodore, 1:17.39.

FOCA's view: FISA have issued a press release to explain their unwillingness to consider the proposals which has been put forward by all the constructors of formula one cars and which, it was hoped, would bring peace to formula one racing. FOCA, the constructors' association, say that in that press release, FISA have suggested that legal action by FOCA is preventing FISA from considering the proposal and therefore in agreeing to a settlement of the present dispute. That suggestion is untrue, say FOCA.

FOCA contend that all that is needed to bring a settlement to the present dispute is the agreement of FISA to the proposals which have been agreed by the constructors. So far as the legal objection raised by FISA is concerned, lawyers acting for FOCA had notified each member of the FISA executive committee individually prior to their meeting in Monte Carlo that discussions with a view to the settlement of the dispute and, in particular, discussions on the proposal now before FISA, would not constitute a contempt of the present English court order. There is no legal obstacle to FISA either considering or signing the Modena Agreement, in FOCA's view.

Rugby League

Make or break time for game in US

By Keith Macklin

After many months in the doldrums, the proposed United States Rugby League has come to life again with what is described as "the most important development since the inception of American Rugby League." This is a meeting in Chicago today which will be attended by 25 top business tycoons and multi-millionaires from 13 American cities. They will be addressed by Mike Mayer, the president of the embryonic United States Rugby League, and by David Oxley, the secretary general of the Rugby League.

Before departing from Gatwick airport on Wednesday, Mr Oxley described the meeting as "a most exciting development which will answer the growing cynicism about Rugby League's prospects in America". When the idea was launched at a New York hotel three years ago there was considerable optimism, and Rugby League council officials toured several states, checking on grounds and facilities in cities from coast to coast.

At the time, it was expected that there would be a quick response once franchises were offered, but progress has been slow. Even now, Mr Mayer, a large and confident former American football player, will speak only in terms of "guarded optimism".

David Howes, publicity officer of the Rugby League, thinks this is "make or break time" for the United States Rugby League. He said the English league had put a further £20,000 into the infant venture, making a total of £40,000. Mr Mayer had published a glossy mail order brochure extolling the virtues and potentialities of the 13-a-side game, and there has been such a positive response that the unexpectedly high figure of 25 big-money names from American industry and commerce had accepted invitations to the Chicago conference.

Mr Howes added: "Mike Mayer says that if a total of eight franchises are sold, this will be enough to launch Rugby League in America in the near future.

For the record

Athletics

MILAN: Indoor meeting (Italy unless stated): Men: 200m: S. Malinverni, 21.92sec; 400m: I. Hornillos (Spain), 48.41; 800m: Zingales, 1min 54.06sec; 3,000m: V. Fontanella, 8.00:45; 60m hurdles: G. Drut (France), 7.84; Triple jump: Ussi, 15.49 Interest: Shot: B. Oldfield (US), 21.31m; Pole vault: T. Hintnaus (US), 5.40m; High jump: J. Wszola (Poland), 2.26m; Long jump: A. Corgos (Spain), 7.51m. Women: 60m: M. Masullo, 7.54; 400m: V. Elder (GB), 52.72; 60m hurdles: Parmigiani, 8.96; High jump: Dini, 1.83m.

Basketball

EUROPEAN CUP: Men: Semi-final round: Real Madrid 96, Maccabi Tel Aviv 89. Women: Quarter-final round: BSE Budapest 61, Politehnica Bucharest 59; Delta Lloyd Amsterdam 53, Sparta Prague 87.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-final round: Barcelona 76, Varese (Italy) 68.

KORAC CUP: Quarter-final round: Orthez (France) 92, Zadar (Yugoslavia) 91; Standard Liege 97, Dinamo Moscow 88.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: San Diego Clippers 110, New Jersey Nets 102; Philadelphia 76ers 107, Boston Celtics 104; Chicago Bulls 109, Cleveland Cavaliers 96; Houston Rockets 116, Dallas Mavericks 68; Kansas City Kings 91, Detroit Pistons 90; San Antonio Spurs 135, Denver Nuggets 132; Phoenix Suns 114, Utah Jazz 89; Los Angeles Lakers 102, Indiana Pacers 96; Seattle Supersonics 108, Washington Bullets 99; Golden State Warriors 115, Portland Trail Blazers 100.

Cycling

COPENHAGEN: Six-day race: result: 1, P. Sercu (Belgium) and A. Fritz (WG), 429 pts; 2, G. Frank and H. Oersted (Denmark), 946, 1 lap behind; 3, R. Pijnen (Netherlands) and R. Hermann (Liechtenstein), 402, 1; 4, U. Hempel and G. Schumacher (WG), 505, 8; 5, A. Doyle (GB) and M. Burton (Jamaica), 381, 17; 6, D. Allan (Australia) and R. van Linden (Belgium), 374, 19.

Tennis

DETROIT: Women's tournament: L. Allen beat V. Ruzici (Romania), 6—1, 6—4; Wendy Turnbull (Australia) beat M. Platek, 6—3, 6—4; C. Kohde beat J. Harrington, 6—3, 7—6; B. Potter beat S. Mascarin, 6—3, 6—3.

RICHMOND, Virginia: Men's tournament: Second round: G. Mayer beat T. Wilkison 6—1, 6—1; R. Tanner beat B. Mitton (SA), 6—3, 6—4; B. Walts beat V. van Patten, 6—4, 6—3.

Rackets

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Charterhouse (C. W. H. May and W. R. Bristowe) beat Harrow (A. H. Lang and C. H. Warren), 15—3, 15—7, 15—8, 15—7; Wellington (D. Alexander and A. Mallinson) beat Radley (J. Male and J. Snow), 4—15, 5—15, 15—7, 17—14, 14—17, 15—11, 15—8.

Cricket

COLOMBO: Club Cricket Conference 185 for 8 (A. Williams 45); Bloomfield CC 41 for 4. Rain stopped play—match drawn. Club Cricket Conference 183 (J. Cumb 50); Moors CC 168. Club Cricket Conference won by 15 runs.

Golf

Tough course brings the best out of Trevino

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Feb 5

Lee Trevino lived up to his reputation by taking a four-stroke lead after the second round of the Sun City classic tournament in Bophuthatswana today with a scorching 64—four strokes better than the course record established yesterday by Mark McNulty. he is on 136, with McNulty and Nick Price joint second on 140.

Trevino described his round as "the finest I have ever played, on the toughest course I have ever played". He had birdies on the first three holes and played the next six in par to reach the turn in 33. He came back in 31, with the help of an eagle at the tricky par-5 eleventh hole over water and birdies at the 13th, 14th and 16th. His card read: 4-3-2-4-5-4-3-4-4 (33), 4-3-4-3-3-3-2-4-5 (31).

Gary Player, who designed the course, was delighted with his friend's record, saying it was an object lesson to those competitors who were complaining about the toughness of the course. Player had a 71 today to be on 143.

Only seven players have broken par (144). The other three are Bernard Langer, of West Germany, Hugh Baiocchi and Bobby Verwey, both of South Africa, all are on 142.

If Trevino maintains his form he will be hard to catch, though Player is notorious for his late charges, and he is on home ground in more senses than one. There could also be danger from Price, who has finished second in his last three tournaments. He had a fine 67 today, going out in 31 with birdies at five of the first nine holes.

The best placed British player is Ian Mosey, who again took 72 and is one of four players on 144. Nick Job is three strokes further behind.

Leading scores

136: L. Trevino (US), 72, 64.
140: M. McNulty, 68, 72; N. Price, 73, 67.
142: B. Langer (WG), 70, 72; H. Baiocchi, 71, 71; R. Verwey, 69, 73.
143: G. Player, 72, 71.
144: R. Lincoln, 72, 72; T. Britz, 72, 72; A. Johnstone, 72, 72; I. Mosey (GB), 72, 72.
145: D. Sann (US), 69, 76; G. Harvey, 73, 72.
146: J. Fourie, 72, 74; J. Bland, 71, 75; D. Hayes, 76, 70; J. Hawkes, 76, 70; J. O'Leary (Ireland), 72, 74.
147: N. Job (GB), 69, 78; R. Woods (US), 76, 71; A. Murray (GB), 73, 74; C. Moody (GB), 75, 72.
148: A. Chandler (GB), 72, 76; F. Beaver, 73, 75; G. Ralph (GB), 75, 73; B. Dassu (Italy), 71, 77; W. Humphreys (GB), 74, 74.
149: D. Watson, 75, 74; D. Williams, 74, 75; R. Brews, 75, 74; P. Carrigill (GB), 77, 72; S. Hobday (Zim), 74, 75; M. Worrall, 74, 75.
150: K. Waters (GB), 73, 77; T. Clemens, 73, 77; G. Levenson, 75, 75; J. Le Grange, 73, 77; B. Sharrock (GB), 73, 77.

OTHER BRITISH SCORES: 151: P. Morely, 77, 74; 153: M. Redding, 75, 78; N. Burch, 78, 75; P. Barber, 80, 73; 154: G. Birch, 78, 76; 155: S. Bennett, 77, 78.

SPORT

Ice skating

British couple poised to bring back title after 12 years

From John Hennessy
Innsbruck, Feb 5

Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, of Nottingham, achieved an almost clean sweep of the compulsory dance section of the European ice skating championships here today. They won the third dance, a rumba, and the technical merit of their own creation in the fourth to the cha-cha rhythm was also preferred by all nine judges. Only in presentation of the last dance did they yield anything and there they shared first place with Irina Moiseyeva and Andrei Minenkov, former holders of the world title for the Soviet Union. Only one judge, the French, marked them equal first overall.

Natalia Linichuk and Gennadi Karponosov, Russian holders of the Olympic title, were placed third.

The compulsory section, like that of the free dance tomorrow, carries the full weight of ordinals, with the result that Miss Torvill and her partner have one point, Miss Moiseyeva and her husband two points, and so on. In the event of a tie the free dance is the deciding factor. The Russians will win the title if they finish one place ahead of the Britons in the free. Miss Linichuk and her partner, similarly will overtake the British couple if they finish two places ahead of them in the free. It is therefore much too soon to acclaim the return of the title to Britain for the first time since 1969.

Miss Torvill and Dean skated second, which is a handicap in terms of marks, because the judges like to keep something in reserve. However, they gave the dance everything, foot perfect in all they did and emerging from the complex situation that their superb technique created with hands, heads and hips precisely on the beat, of "Apple Pink and Cherry Blossom White". It was an exhilarating exhibition, which elicited marks ranging from 5.6 to 5.9, which virtually assured them of victory.

Dean later drew last position for him and Miss Torvill in the free dance, "a fantastic piece of luck" according to their trainer, Betty Callaway.

The compulsory figures of the women's competition opened up the possibility of a laudable British achievement, with Deborah Cottrill, of Solihull, placed second to Claudia Kristofics-Binder, of Austria. She can expect to overtake Miss Kristofics-Binder in both tomorrow's short programme and Saturday's free skating. Similarly she can hope to withstand the challenge of Kristiina Wegelius, of Finland, who lies third, but immediately behind the three—unarguably the three best skaters of compulsory figures in Europe — there looms the brooding menace of Denise Biellmann, of Switzerland, equally unarguably, the best free skater in Europe, probably the world, on her day.

Under the new rules Miss Cottrill has acquired 1.2 points for the figures. Since these are based on the ordinals, multiplied by 0.6, Miss Wegelius has 1.8 and Miss Biellmann 2.4. The multiplying factor for the short programme is 0.4, so that Miss Biellmann needs to finish three places in front of Miss Cottrill to draw level tomorrow. Alternatively two places in the free skating would serve the same purpose.

Much, of course, will depend on tomorrow's short. If Miss Cottrill can pull off her triple toe loop in



Deborah Cottrill: dazzling prospect.

the combination she can reasonably expect to remain close enough to the Swiss to stay in the hunt on Saturday. Miss Biellmann can be spellbinding in the free when all goes well, but she has an unenviable reputation for inconsistency. So the dazzling prospect of a British victory is not out of the question.

The result of the figures calls into question the validity of the British championship in November. On that occasion Miss Cottrill heavily outscored Karen Wood (Deeside) in both figures and short and yet derived almost no benefit because of the paucity of the opposition. Here eight skaters have interposed themselves between the two, So that Miss Wood is 4.8 marks behind Miss Cottrill.

In the evening Igor Bobrin, of the Soviet Union, succeeded to Robin Cousin's title, with a sparkling display of free skating, marred only by a triple toe loop that was reduced to a single. He brought off five other triples and introduced the many unusual elements that are characteristic of his flamboyant style. Jean-Christophe Simond, of France, took the silver medal and Norbert Schramm, of West Germany, the bronze.

The two British men, Christopher Howarth (Richmond) ham), fulmilled their modest expectations. Howarth succeeded with the difficult triple lutz, among others, and Pepperday with three triple toe loops. Pepperday was exhausted before the end and had difficulty in surviving the full five minutes. Howarth finished eleventh, Pepperday in his first European championship, fourteenth.

WOMEN'S COMPULSORY FIGURES: 1, C. Kristofics-Binder (Austria) 0.6 pts, 10 placements; 2, D. Cottrill (GB) 1.2, 18; 3, K. Wegelius (Finland) 1.8, 27; 4, D. Biellmann (Switzerland) 2.4, 41; 5, S. Dubravcic (Yugoslavia) 3.0, 48; 6, K. Ivanova (USSR) 3.6, 50; 7, K. Riediger (W Germany) 4.2, 55; 8, K. Witt (E Germany) 4.8, 67; 9, C. Paul (E Germany) 5.4, 81; 10, K. Wood (GB) 6.0, 94.

ICE-DANCING (after three compulsory dances and original set pattern dance): 1, J. Torvill and C. Dean (GB) 9 placings; 2, I. Moiseyeva and A. Minenkov (Soviet Union), 17; 3, N. Linichuk and G. Karponosov (Soviet Union), 27; 4, N. Bestemyanova and A. Bukin (Soviet Union), 35; 5, K. Barber and N. Slater (GB), 46; 6, N. Herve and P. Rechu (France), 57; 7, J. Berankova and J. Bartak (Czechoslovakia), 6?.

Racing

Route which could lead to Aintree

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The abandonment of Haydock Park's programme on Wednesday meant that John Thorne had no option but to revise his plans for his top class hunter chaser, Spartan Missile. Mr Thorne had hoped to horse him at Haydock but now he is running him at Sandown Park today in the Wilfred Johnstone Hunters Steeplechase, which was the same springboard from which his season has been launched for the past three years.

The race evokes mixed memories for Mr Thorne who is the horse's devoted owner, breeder, trainer and rider. In 1978 Spartan Missile got no farther than the fourth fence when he was ridden by Mr Thorne's daughter, Diana, who is now married to Nick Henderson, the trainer. That year the race was won by Dancing Brig, one of Spartan Missile's rivals today and a runner in 1979 it was the turn of Spartan Missile to have the last say.

Returning to Sandown for the third February in succession 12 months ago, Spartan Missile had to be content with only second prize, primarily because he was outpaced for most of the way by King Kong II, although some critics ventured to suggest that King Kong's rider had given the rest the slip.

Now Spartan Missile, one of the most famous hunters in recent memory, sets out on the route that could easily lead him to Aintree at the beginning of April and a crack at the Grand National, for which he is already prominent among the ante-post price lists. According to Iain MacKenzie and David Phillips, who edit and compile the most recent volume of Hunter Chasers and Point to Pointers, Spartan Missile has today's race at his mercy particularly as there is no King Kong in the field.

Given 11st in their free handicap, Spartan Missile was rated above such distinguished hunters as Rolls Rambler, Queensberry Lad, Shannon Bridge and Remezzo, which is only to be expected of a horse deemed capable by the Jockey Club's handicapper of carrying 11st 2lb in the Grand National. Today the only hunter rated within sight of Spartan Missile in their free handicap is Sun Lion who is trained by Mr Thorne's son-in-law.

While still on the subject of this annual review of Hunter Chasers and Point to Pointers, which is published by Horse and Hound (£8.50), I feel bound to say that it is amusing as well as invaluable. The authors are not guilty of mincing their words. "Has lost all interest and can confidently be ignored (the bookmakers were taking no risks when they laid him at 200-1 on his fourth start)" and "formerly very game, but has performed abysmally and not gone a yard in all but one of his last 15 starts, must be ailing badly" were but two of the enlivened comments that caught my eye.

As for Spartan Missile, MacKenzie and Phillips say that they hope he will make a mockery of the old saw "they never come back" after developing suspensory (ligament) trouble last season. Today should help to tell us and the authors whether Spartan Missile is still, in their words, in a different world to other hunter chasers and whether he is already on song for Aintree.

For the rest of the programme at Sandown, the first division of the February Novices Hurdle should be won by Fulke Walwyn's promising novice Kilbrittain Castle, who was successful over the course and distance last month. In the meantime High Old Time, the horse he trounced that day, has won at Ascot, so anyone can be forgiven for thinking that the form has a gilt-edged look about it.

The other division may be won by Donegal Prince who could easily be flattered by the ease with which he won his last race at Folkestone. Nevertheless to win a handicap hurdle confined to amateur riders by 30 lengths is no mean achievement for a novice and Donegal Prince is preferred now to Mount Temple who was put to rout along with many others by that immensely promising young horse Easy Fella at Kempton Park last month. I will be disappointed if Corbiere fails to win the Fairmile Novice Handicap Chase, even with 12st 7lb now that he has got the hang of taking fences in his stride at racing pace.

Two to follow: William Hastings-Bass, who has made a splendid start at Cagnes-sur-Mer, with two winners and a short head second, can strike again with Sulzano and Stand Easy today. Both will be ridden by John Reid. Sulzano, who showed some promise behind Kalaglow in large fields at Newmarket and Sandown last summer, attempts to win the £3,704 Prix d'Ajaccio over 10 furlongs. Stand Easy gained his only success to date in last year's version of that race but he looks capable of beating the field in the £4,167 Prix Docteur Gazagnaire over the same trip. The problem is that he will be having his first run since early July but he has only eight moderate opponents to beat.

STATE OF GOING (official): Sandown Park: Good to soft. Kelso: Soft. Tomorrow: Stratford-on-Avon: Chase course, good to soft; hurdles course, soft. Wetherby: Good to soft.

Prince Fury wins for father and son

By Michael Seely

Anthony Webber stole the riding honours at Towcester yesterday when landing a 28-1 double on Prince Fury and Price Review. Prince Fury, who outjumped his rivals in the January Novices Handicap Chase, is trained by the jockey's father, John. He said afterwards: "Thirteen must be my lucky number. I was born on the thirteenth of the month, Prince Fury was 13 on the card and that was my thirteenth success of the season."

Webber's second winner, Price Review, showed far too good a turn of finishing speed for Eva Anne and Acarine, the even money favourite in the Mill House Handicap Hurdle. Acarine only managed to finish just ahead of his stable companion, Woodford Prince who was partnered by John Francome. Peter Cundell, the trainer of both these horses is still in bed with influenza but had said earlier in the day: "Francome will ride Celtic Ryde in the Otley Hurdle at Sandown on Saturday. He is a man I'd rather have on my side than against me. I intend to keep my options open in case anything goes wrong with Sea Pigeon."

Francome had an afternoon of mixed fortunes. The champion elect could finish only fifth on Silent Burn in the Yardley Gobion Handicap Chase. This was a marvellous race to watch in Towcester's magnificent amphitheatre. Approaching the third fence from home there were still five horses in with a chance. But Silent Burn blundered and Albury Lad, strongly ridden by Philip Blacker, drew clear in the straight to win



Francome: an afternoon of mixed fortunes.

by 10 lengths. Albury Lad belongs to Colonel W. H. Whitbread and is trained by Stan Mellor.

Silent Burn's handler, Tim Forster, did not have to wait long for compensation as Tim Thomson Jones rode Moonshot to a decisive victory in the Rothersthorpe Handicap. Francome also received consolation when winning the second division of the Marston Novices Hurdle on Mr Whiskers for Richard Head who confirmed that Border Incident will have his Cheltenham Gold Cup preliminary in either the Fairlawne Chase at Windsor or the Jim Ford Challenge Cup at Wincanton.

The afternoon had started on a high note for Graham Goode, the ITV commentator, when Carven Boy beat Kudu King in the first division of the Novices Hurdle. Goode has been extremely patient with Carven Boy, whom he bought over two years ago at Newmarket as a three-year-old out of training.

Every day's racing at Towcester is always enjoyable but there were a great many disgruntled punters yesterday. Nicknamed "Dodger" McCartney, a professional backer from London, summed up the general feeling when he said: "Normally the bookmakers bet with a margin of around 20 per cent in their favour, but here their prices are so short that it's more like 100 per cent. And even at these odds they knock you back if you want more than a fiver on." Mr McCartney added that he was referring to the men with boards in Tattersalls and not to the reputable operators on the rails. Hugo Bevan, the clerk of the course, said that he had received several complaints and that he would be inquiring into the matter with the committee responsible for the allocation of pitches.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Santellis, Knockaked, Native Evening, Woodburn, Copshul, Barons Folly, Soy Sauce, Governor's Camp, Fine Sovereign.

Top weight withdrawn

Lightning Label, who had been allocated the top weight of 10st, will not run in the William Hill Lincoln Handicap at Doncaster on March 28. His owner, Ralph Mandell, has sold a half-share in the five-year-old to an American trainer and he will now race in the United States.



Maracaña Stadium: temple of Brazilian football and a fitting setting for the likes of Pele.

Continuing the series on great teams with Brazil of the 'Little World Cup'

The fiesta at Maracaña

The edges of a pleasant dream can sometimes take on the dark qualities of a nightmare. Having become mesmerized by the fantasies of Brazilian football in the World Cups of 1954 and 1958, my recurring dream was one day to witness the white shirts of England march into the vastness of Maracaña Stadium in Rio de Janeiro side by side with the daffodil shirts and bluebell shorts of their hosts.

That chance came my way in 1964 when a four sided (50th) anniversary celebration tournament between Brazil, Argentina, Portugal and England was organized to be held in Rio and St Paolo. For no specific reason it came to be labelled the "Little World Cup".

Colleagues who had previously visited that part of the world had often whetted my imagination with their description of flying in over Rio Bay itself to view the city below nestling amongst the high peaks that run down to a shore frilled by surf and at the heart of it all to see the circular colossus of Maracaña Stadium, with its 200,000 capacity, pinned there like some giant flying saucer come to rest on earth.

Having spent a busy fortnight covering the French tennis championships at Roland Garros, I left Paris by air on a Friday midnight. Because of the time differential we were due to reach Rio next morning. And that same Saturday night England were due to face Brazil in the opening match, kick off 8 pm local time. Keyed up with the expectation sleep had come only in brief snatches as we spanned the Atlantic from darkness into light.

Imagine my disappointment when we flew the last 100 miles through a dense vile of a tropical storm. The rain fell like stair rods and bounced off the ground like sorbo balls. Rio was invisible beneath that black, furry sky. That was the first blow to my hopes.

Having duly contacted the England party at their hotel and, the storm passed, lunched with them in the sunshine as a gorgeous rainbow spanned the bay, the need to sleep at last began to press after the long journey round the clock. "The coach leaves for the ground sharp at 6 o'clock" said the players. "If you want a lift don't be late because of the expected traffic jams".

"Wake me at 5.30 without fail, room 504" I instructed the hall porter and headed for bed. When at last I awoke with a start the room was in darkness. Night had fallen. Suddenly every nerve end began to jangle like the alarm call I had obviously slep through. Switching on the bedside lamp my watch said it was 8 pm—kickoff time. I had come thousands of miles to do a job and fulfil a personal dream and there I was AWOL.

Panic struck. Dashing out of the hotel and luckily collecting a stray taxi I hopefully stammered "Maracaña, football, Pele". The driver's smile said it all and we set off into the strange city knowing nothing of the distance from the scene of action. It was a nightmare journey. The taxi radio crackled violently. Clearly it was a broadcast from the ground as recognisable names struck the air —"Pele, Julinho, Gilmar, Greaves, Charlton, Moore. . . ." What was the score I wondered as the great dome of the stadium's floodlights drew closer and closer.

At last we were there: 8.45. Already half time. Blindly I ran round and round the tiered galleries inside this fortress of a stadium searching for the press box, like a rabbit caught in the headlights of a car. Finally I spied batteries of television cameras. The press enclosure was through the next gangway and a moment later I saw the faces of my colleagues.

Sliding as nonchalantly as possible into a spare seat I inquired the half time score. "Half time?" they croaked with one weary voice. "The flaming match hasn't even started yet and we've been sitting here for two hours". At almost the next moment a deep roar broke from the 150,000 assembly and there from the tunnel emerged, side by side, the yellow and white shirts of Brazil and England. The reason for the late start is another story but for some strange reason the fates had relented and my dream was fulfilled.

As for the match itself for almost an hour England hung on at 1—1. Then suddenly, in the time it takes to smoke a cigarette, Brazil burst their floodgates. Inspired by Pele they caught the magic samba beat of carnival to score four more goals and win 5—1.

The Brazilian footballer is a law unto himself. There is something primitive and explosive about his game. Perhaps it is the negroid element in the Portuguese Latin blood that gives him his special gift. Four World Cup finals out of 11—three victorious—seems to prove the point. Loose limbed and fluid in all his actions, he sways like a fern in the wind unconstrained and relaxed. Pele, Didi and Garrincha in their time seemed to synthesise this physical quality.

Beyond that too he plays with a sense of joy and freedom which probably stems from the fact that football in his vast continent was a means of emancipating the Negro and opening the doors to a life beside the white man.

Thus on that May night of 1964 England suffered the fantasy and the improvisation of Brazilian football which seems to spring from a Dionysiac dance of irrational surprises and variations. At the finish the stadium was aflame with the bonfires of victory as fireworks and rockets lit the sky. This was fiesta.

Maracaña itself has become the temple of Brazilian football. One day perhaps in some far distant century its ruins may be regarded by generations to come as the Parthenon of Rio. Its very setting is breathtaking and fit for the likes of a Pele. That was my first sight of it. Above shone the moon as bright as a silver coin; to one side, peering over the uppermost rim of this colosseum, was the dominating golden figure of Christ bathed in floodlight at the peak of Corcovado Mountain which hovers over the city and the bay of flawless beauty. You have been nowhere and seen nothing until you've been to Maracaña.

Geoffrey Green

Pelé: something spontaneous and explosive in his game

Skiing

Miss Epple's comeback

Zwiesel, Feb 5.—Maria Epple, of West Germany, who has been out of competition for two seasons because of injury, won a World Cup giant slalom here today. Christa Kinshofer took second place as five West German skiers finished in the top 12 in front of the home crowd.

Miss Epple, aged 21, younger sister of Irene, is still unable to bend her left knee completely as a result of the serious injury she suffered in December, 1979, at Piancavallo. Today, however, her skis hardly lost contact with the surface and she demonstrated just how to take the corners without getting stuck in the soft snow.

Marie-Thérèse Nadig, the overall World Cup leader, skied brilliantly in the fresh snow to lead after the first run. In the second, however, she went too wide at the end of a series of right turns and fell back to sixth place, though it increases her overall lead over her nearest rival, Erika Hess, also of Switzerland.

Miss Epple, the 1978 giant slalom world champion, was in third position after the first run. Her second effort was more than three seconds faster than her first, and more than a second faster than Miss Nadig's.

Tamara McKinney, of the United States, who has won the last two giant slaloms, lost her chance of victory in the second run and finished third. Nevertheless, the result puts her farther ahead in the giant slalom overall standings.

LEADING PLACINGS: 1, M. Epple (WG), 2min 18.??sec; 2, C. Kinshofer (WG), 2:18.83; 3, T. McKinney (US), 2:1?.??; 4, W. Bieler (Italy), 2:19.??; 5, C. Cooper (US), 2:19.66; 6, M. T. Nadig (Switzerland), 2:19.86.

OVERALL STANDINGS: 1, Nadig, 25? pts; 2, E. Hess (Switzerland), 18?; 3, Pelen, 168; 4, Kinshofer, 16?; 5, H. Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 1??; 6, F. Serrat (France), 143.—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Bobsleigh

East Germans fastest in trials

Cortina d'Ampezzo, Feb 5.—East German and Swiss teams clocked the fastest times in the last day of trials for the world four-man bobsleigh championship. Bernhard Germeshausen, the East German who won the world two-man title here last Sunday, had the best time of 1 min. 12.91 sec. The number-one Swiss team led by Erich Schaerer clocked the second fastes, time of the day, 1 min. 12.92 sec. The East German third team, driven by Bernhard Lehman, and Switzerland's second team, led by Hans Hiltebrand, clocked 1 min. 13.12 sec. and 1 min. 13.78 sec. respectively.

The United States teams led by Jim Morgan and Brent Rushlaw were thirteenth and fifteenth in the first run and thirteenth and sixteenth in the second, from 1.5 to 2.5 seconds slower than the East Germans. Morgan, leader of the American number-one bob, said he had high hopes of finishing among the top 10 in the race "which would be an excellent result for us".

PRACTICE TIMES: First run: 1, East Germany 1 (Germeshausen, Gerlach, Truebner, Gerhardt) in 1min 12.91sec; 3, Switzerland 1 (Schaerer, Ruegg, Ruegg, Benz) 1:12.92; 3, East Germany 2 (Schoenau, Richter, Jerke, Kirschner) 1:13.04; 4, East Germany 3 (Lehman, Musiol, Weltzing, Wiese) 1:13.15; 5, Austria 1 (Sperling, Koefer, Schwarz, Liepl) 1:13.46; 6, Soviet Union 2 (Kipurs, Praidans, Shrpats, Lebedew) 1:13.83.

Second run: 1, East Germany 3 in 1:13.12; 2, East Germany 1, 1:13.30; 3, Switzerland 1, 1:13.47; 4, Switzerland 2, 1:13.78; 5, Austria 3, 1:14.00; 6, Austria 2, 1:14.45.—AP.

Latest snow reports from Europe

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	170	370	Good	Varied	Good	Snow	-6
New snow on hard base							
Grindelwald	100	220	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	2
New snow on good base							
Isola 2000	20	40	Icy	—	Poor	—	2
Two runs only in good condition							
St Anton	140	460	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-6
Powder on hard base							
Seefeld	120	185	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-1
New snow on good base							
Tignes	170	270	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-5
Heavy snowfall for two days							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources.

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	100	200	Pwdr	—	-9
Braunwald	230	300	Pwdr	—	-6
Champery	40	150	Pwdr	—	-5
Chateau d'Oex	90	200	Pwdr	—	-8
Disentis	150	250	Pwdr	—	-6
Engelberg	140	270	Pwdr	—	-2
Gstaad	120	200	Pwdr	—	-4
Kandersteg	90	200	Pwdr	—	-2
Laax-Flims	120	380	Pwdr	—	-2
Lenk	100	200	Pwdr	—	-4
Lenzerheide	100	170	Wet	—	-5
Les Diablerets	100	180	Pwdr	—	-4
Leysin	110	220	Pwdr	—	-4
Pontresina	50	80	Pwdr	—	-11
St Cergue	130	170	Pwdr	—	-2
Savognin	30	100	Pwdr	—	-1
Unterwasser	120	180	Pwdr	—	-3
FRANCE					
Alpe d'Huez	150	370	—	—	—
Chamonix	45	600	—	—	—
La Clusaz	150	280	—	—	—
L Contamines	130	400	—	—	—
L Deux Alpes	180	290	—	—	—
Les Gets	140	220	—	—	—
Les Menuires	105	190	—	—	—
Megève	100	305	—	—	—
Méribel	135	315	—	—	—
Montgenèvre	80	120	—	—	—
Pra-Loup	15	45	—	—	—
St Gervais	60	230	—	—	—
Superdévoluy	110	150	—	—	—
Val d'Isère	160	260	—	—	—

SCOTTISH: Cairngorms: Main runs: Only one high level run complete, all others broken, new snow on a firm base. Lower slopes: Limited nursery areas, wet snow. Vertical runs: 800 feet. Access roads: Clear. Snow level: 2,200 feet. Glenshee: Main runs: Only one high level run complete, all others broken, no snow or very little. Lower slopes: Limited nursery areas, no snow or very little. Vertical runs, 400 feet. Access roads: Clear. Snow level: 2,500 feet. Glencoe: Main runs: Few runs complete, wet snow. Lower slopes: Limited nursery areas, very wet snow. Vertical runs: 120 feet. Access roads: Clear. Snow level: 300 feet. Lecht: Main runs: Most runs complete, wet snow. Lower slopes: Limited nursery areas, wet snow. Vertical runs 600 feet. Access roads: Clear. Snow level: 2,000 feet.

Sandown Park programme

1.30 FEBRUARY HURDLE (Div 1: Novices: £1,178: 2m)
2 1421 Kilbrittain Castle (CD), F. Walwyn, 5-11-5 .... W. Smith
4 0 Amendment, I. Balding, 5-11-0 .... B. Reilly
6 f- Bold Hope, J. Old, 5-11-0 .... S. May
10 0 Funny Spring, L. Cumani, 6-11-0 .... Mr M. Rocca
11 0 Killiney Lad, J. Gifford, 7-11-0 .... R. Rowe
12 320 Loch Hall, N. Graham, 6-11-0 .... P. Burgoyne 4
13 Man in the Middle, D. Sasse, 5-11-0 .... C. Brown
16 00p00 Newton Flare, W. G. Turner, 5-11-0 .... W. Turner
17 0010p- North West, M. Masson, 6-11-0 .... Mr S. Adamson 4
20 00- P. Penelope, B. Perrett, 5-11-0 .... Mrs R. Vickery
21 p Prince de Galles, B. Munro-Wilson, 5-11-0 .... Mr B. Munro-Wilson
25 331/00- Roundstone Lad, J. Gifford, 8-11-0 .... R. Champion
1-2 Kilbrittain Castle, 11-2 Loch Hall, 8-1 Amendment, 10-1 Funny Spring, 12-1 Killiney Lad, 16-1 others.

2.0 PARK CHASE (Handicap: £2,022: 2m 18yd)
201 14-4314 Friendly Alliance, F. Winter, 8-12-7 .... J. Francome
202 3pp400 Tristram Shandy, C. House, 7-11-12 .... Mr J. Frost 7
205 1-03302 Socks, J. Gifford, 8-11-4 .... R. Rowe
206 140-203 Isle of Man (CD), F. Walwyn, 14-11-0 .... W. Smith
208 030023 Giolla Deachar, Mrs A. Finch, 10-10-8 .... S. Morshead
213 4332p4 Current Chance, F. A. Smith, 10-10-0 .... C. Mann 7
7-4 Friendly Alliance, 100-30 Isle of Man, 5-1 Socks, 13-2 Giolla Deachar, 8-1 Current Chance, 10-1 Tristram Shandy.

2.30 FAIRMILE CHASE (Handicap: Novices: £2,658: 3m 118yd)
301 141u11 Corbiere, Mrs J. Pitman, 6-12-7 .... B. Smart
302 12-21ff Lavengro (C), F. Winter, 8-11-9 .... J. Francome
303 0-13122 Sea Captain, R. Head, 7-11-7 .... R. Champion
304 2-44211 Very Light, T. Forster, 7-11-2 .... A. Webber
305 223122 Prince's Risk (B), P. Mitchell, 7-11-1 .... R. G. Hughes
306 1000fp Moonlight Express, J. Gifford, 8-10-11 .... R. Rowe
308 103221- Pucka Fella, Mrs D. Tucker, 7-10-10 .... P. Hobbs
309 13p011 General Election, L. Kennard, 7-10-10 .... R. Linley
311 0/2342 Express Orchid, B. Forsey, 8-10-2 .... K. Bosley
312 2f-p4f0 Le Clairstan, R. Hannon, 13-10-0 .... Major R. Faulkner
3-1 Corbiere, 7-2 Sea Captain, 4-1 Lavengro, 9-2 Very Light, 9-1 General Election, 12-1 Prince's Risk, 14-1 Pucka Fella, Express Orchid, 16-1 others.

3.0 WILFRED JOHNSTONE CHASE (Hunters: £1,040: 2½m 68yd)
401 3/f2131- Dancing Brig (CD), T. Clay, 10-12-10 .... T. Clay 7
402 340113- Fury Boy, M. Thorne, 8-12-10 .... M. Mann 7
403 f11f23- Sun Lion, N. Henderson, 11-12-10 .... R. Waley-Cohen 7
405 u1410- Kit Carson, D. J. Jones, 4-12-7 .... D. Cantillon 7
407 010f00- Scorching Wind, M. Opperman, 9-12-7 .... M. Opperman 7
408 1110/21- Spartan Missile (CD), M. Thorne, 9-12-7 .... M. J. Thorne
409 0p40/41- Sydney Quin, W. Kelly, 9-12-7 .... Miss C. Mumford 7
412 0/32400- Double Negative, R. Knipe, 11-12-0 .... E. Woods
414 p0/000- Lord Browndodd, R. Good, 13-12-0 .... R. Good 7
415 40030p- Orangefield Lad, A. Templeton, 10-12-0 .... A. Templeton 7
416 pru004- Ramblix, P. Ledger, 9-12-0 .... T. Head 4
417 030040/ Rinnage, J. A. Hill, 6-12-0 .... A. Hill 7
418 p0p-ppp Sandwilan, G. Ham, 13-12-0 .... Mrs D. Crissell 7
420 ff0r/00- Wynsor House II, C. Curtis, 9-12-0 .... P. Nicholls 7
4-0 Spartan Missile, 4-1 Fury Boy, 7-1 Sun Lion, 10-1 Dancing Brig, 16-1 others.

3.30 WAVENDON OPPORTUNITY HURDLE (Handicap: £1,572: 2m 5f 75yd)
502 320/300 Seed Pearl, J. Gifford, 8-12-1 .... P. Double 7
503 112340 Olhman, H. Poole, 8-12-0 .... M. Richards 5
504 1000/00 Grand Rose (CD), M. Stephens, 9-11-5 .... S. Knightley 7
505 14220-3 Princely Fool, B. Palling, 6-11-3 .... A. Griffiths 7
506 010000 Master Ken, M. Haynes, 7-11-1 .... A. Wright 7
507 3p-31p4 Palaestrina, L. Dudgeon, 8-11-1 .... W. Newton 7
508 30-4210 Crouton, H. Price, 5-10-13 .... L. Mancini 7
512 40-0014 Ghost Writer, F. Walwyn, 14-10-9 .... R. Pusey 7
513 11u-00f Groovy (B), W. G. Turner, 6-10-8 .... P. Maddison 7
514 000-341 Mielle, R. Blakeney, 6-10-8 .... M. Coyle
517 010402 Precipienne, J. Blundell, 6-10-7 .... D. Dutton 7
520 0/00430 Rodney Parade, M. Salaman, 6-10-7 .... J. Kear
521 n0000 My Bally-Anna, R. Atkins, 6-10-7 .... R. Millman 7
523 p0-0300 Suncharmer, B. Wise, 8-10-7 .... J. Akehurst
524 000000 C'est Afrique (B), J. Long, 10-10-7 .... J. Hughes
525 Great Raven, M. Stephens, 9-10-7 .... R. Muggeridge 7
7-1 Olhman, 4-1 Princely Fool, 5-1 Crouton, 13-2 Seed Pearl, 8-1 Ghost Writer, 9-1 Mielle, 10-1 Precipienne, Palaestrina, 12-1 Grand Rose, 16-1 others.

4.0 FEBRUARY HURDLE (Div 2: Novices: £1,198: 2m)
601 44112 Mount Temple (D), D. Morley, 5-11-10 .... H. R. Davies
604 030-1 Donegal Prince, P. Kelleway, 5-11-5 .... Mr O. Sherwood
606 323022 Admiral Grenville, J. Jenkins, 5-11-0 .... B. Reilly
610 330 Doctor Fitz, H. Poole, 6-11-0 .... P. Barton
613 003-0 Hallowkiln, Lady Herries, 6-11-0 .... G. Enright
614 344- Jolly Jim, M. Tompkins, 6-11-0 .... C. Smith
615 2 Just Once More, J. Gifford, 5-11-0 .... R. Rowe
616 0p Lake Harmony, R. Blakeney, 5-11-0 .... S. Morshead
618 0 Noxal, J. Gifford, 5-11-0 .... R. Champion
622 002/0- Rad Ronan, Miss A. Sinclair, 8-11-0 .... M. Coyle 4
623 pp00 Royal Lyon, M. Stephens, 6-11-0 .... M. Barrott 4
625 0 Woodhaul Girl, J. Gifford, 5-11-0 .... G. Kinane
13-8 Donegal Prince, 5-1 Mount Temple, 4-1 Admiral Grenville, 8-1 Hallowkiln, 10-1 Doctor Fitz, 12-1 Just Once More, 16-1 others.

Sandown Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
1.30 Kilbrittain Castle. 2.0 Friendly Alliance. 2.30 Corbiere. 3.0 Spartan Missile. 3.30 Crouton. 4.0 Donegal Prince.

Kelso

1.45 MAKERSTOUN HURDLE (Handicap: £550: 2m)
000 Stormy Affair, 8-12-1 .. Stringer
024 Gay Walk, 5-11-10 .... Bradley
000 What-A-Prince, 8-11-5 Isherwood
000 La Fille, 5-10-9 Miss Hargreaves
100 Grumble Weed, 4-10-7 .. Gray
000 Lorna Constance, 6-10-6 Johnson
000 Hand Over Fist, 6-10-2 Pepper
Evens Gay Walk, 5-2 Lorna Constance, 9-2 Stormy Affair, 8-1 La Fille.

2.15 RUTHERFORD STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £767: 2m 196yd)
102 Bobjob, 8-12-6 Mr Todhunter 7
033 Polars Smartie, 10-11-3 .. Lamb
104 Durham Lad, 8-10-11 Fairhurst
211 Border Brig, 10-10-9 .. Pimlott
023 Caravino, 8-10-4 .... Bowker
000 Roman King, 10-10-0 .... Grant
244 Burgundy Beau, 10-10-0 Goulding 4
-u00 Totley Hall, 7-10-0 .. M. Barnes
9-4 Border Brig, 7-2 Polars Smartie, 4-1 Caravino, 6-1 Durham Lad.

2.45 MAXTON HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £495: 3m)
212 Armit Water, 10-11-1 Mr Dun 7
4-0 Carriage Way, 7-11-1 Kettlewell 7
p-00 Chance Command, 6-11-1 C. Tinkler
00 Vultop, 6-11-1 .... Goulding
0 Camborne Hill, 5-11-0 .. Pimlott
Dalham, 5-11-0 .... Mrs Rees 4
First Class Mail, 5-11-0 Charlton
Greenhill Hall, 5-11-0 O'Connell 4
5po Hodson Hero, 5-11-0 .. Goulding
Malley Lane, 5-11-0 Errington 4
-000 Milton Regis, 5-11-0 .... Nolan
Paul Scarlet, 5-11-0 Mr Shiels 7
Private Business, 6-11-0 .. Lamb
000 Rejuvenator, 5-11-0 Mr Metcalfe
040 Swerdna, 5-11-0 .... Mooney 4
00 Witchin, 5-11-0 .... Barry
103 B and K Emperor, 4-10-10 Tuck
031 Hold Off, 4-10-10 .... Mr Dun
On Leave, 4-10-0 .... Barnes
2-1 Hold Off, 100-30 B and K Emperor, 9-2 Armit Water, 6-1 Private Business.

3.15 TEVIOT STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £1,194: 2m 6f)
03f Cashea, 8-11-10 .... Lamb
020 Peaty Sandy, 7-11-6 .. Mr Dun
11 Trevino, 11-11-3 .... Pimlott
014 What A Coup, 6-10-12 .. Nolan
020 Caxton Hall, 10-10-11 Mr Walton
120 Mystic Match, 7-10-3 .. Barnes
00f Silver Mount, 10-10-0 Hawkins
4-6 Peaty Sandy, 4-1 Trevino, 5-1 Cashea, 13-2 What A Coup.

3.45 ANCRUM STEEPLECHASE (Novice: £672: 3m)
231 Highway Dual, 6-11-11 Pimlott
2p0 Amazon Ruler, 8-11-1 Mrs Rees 4
23-0 Barsedo, 9-11-1 Mr Bradbourne
040 Churchill Peak, 7-11-1 .. Lamb
-4-0 Church Moose, 9-11-1 .. Barry
pf Count Vronsky, 8-11-1 Charlton
p05 Ellen Louise, 8-11-1 .. Miss Lock
00u Misty Rascal, 6-11-1 .. Doughty
fpf Pops Girl, 8-11-1 .. O'Connell 4
200 Sea Lad, 6-11-1 .... Grant
un2 The Manufacturer, 9-11-1 .. Tuck
-32 Waite, 11-11-1 .... Earnshaw 4
-001 Water Crescent, 6-11-1 Johnson 7
000 General Factotum, 5-10-4 Mr McIntyre 4
7-4 Waite, 5-2 Highway Dual, 5-1 Churchill Peak, 13-2 Sea Lad.

4.15 MAXTON HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £672: 2m)
0 Lady Craigie, 6-11-1 .... Dick 7
030 Lunar Wind, 6-11-1 McCaskill 7
423 Belle Isle Boy, 5-11-0 Hawkins
Darth Vader, 5-11-0 O'Connell 4
Miss Lausienne, 5-11-0 Balmer
-f32 Paddy's Peril, 5-11-0 .. Pimlott
000- Regal Rod, 5-11-0 .... Barry
00 Regal Roots, 5-11-0 T. Davies 7
000 Some Jinks, 5-11-0 .... Lamb
- Some Operator, 5-11-0 Mr Metcalfe 4
000 Tartan Chief, 5-11-0 .... Nolan
-000 The Sampson Boys, 5-11-0 Errington 4
03 Hyde, 4-10-0 .... Tuck
0 Kellon Lass, 4-10-0 .. Goulding
022 Tarchin, 4-10-0 .... Barnes
0 Whetstone, 4-10-0 .... Tinkler
15-8 Hyde, 7-2 Basil's Choice, 5-1 Tarchin, 6-1 Paddy's Peril.

Kelso selections

By Michael Seely
1.45 Stormy Affair. 2.15 Caravino. 2.45 Hold Off. 3.15 Peaty Sandy. 3.45 Waite. 4.15 Hyde.

Towcester results

1.30 (1.32) MARSTON HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £522: 2m)
CARVEN BOY, b g, by Deeny Boy —Ma Gillie (G. Goode) 6-11-7 S. O'Neill (8-1) 1
Kudu King Mr J. Cambridge (15-2) 2
Indian Rulolle S. Knightley (7-4 jt fav) 3
TOTE: Win, [illegible]

2.0 (2.1) JANUARY CHASE (Handicap: Novices: [illegible])
PRINCE FURY, [illegible] A. Webber [illegible] 1
Loney Dual P. Scudamore [illegible] 2
Score [illegible] S. Smith Eccles [illegible] 3
TOTE: [illegible]

2.30 (2.32) MILL HOUSE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,076: 2m 5f 26yd)
PRICE REVIEW, b g, by Friald Aire —Dellgirl (Mrs J. Wakely), 7-10-9 .... A. Webber (5-1) 1
Eva Anne .... C. Mann (50-1) 2
Acarine R. Champion (evens fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 80p; places, 21p, 54p, 11p. Dual F: winner or second 28p. CSF: £22.10. K. Bailey, [illegible] Woodford Prince [illegible]

3.0 (3.2) YARDLEY GOBION CHASE (Handicap: £1,073: 3m 190yd)
ALBURY LAD, [illegible] P. Blacker [illegible] 1
[illegible]
TOTE: [illegible]

3.30 (3.31) ROTHERSTHORPE CHASE (Handicap: £822: 2m 50yd)
MOONSHOT b g by Golden Dipper —Popover (C. MacSwiney) 7-10-12 Mr T. Thomson Jones (12-1) 1
Lollipopman .... S. May (4-1) 2
Linarte .. Miss L. King (12-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.10; places, 42p, 16p, 19p. Dual F: £2.19. CSF: £5.87. T. Forster at Wantage. 10l, 5l. Tom Sawyer (12-1) 4th. 11 ran.

4.0 (4.1) MARSTON HURDLE (Div II: Novices: [illegible])
MR WHISKERS, [illegible] 1
[illegible]
PLACEPOT: £14.95.

Shirley Williams on Britain's vital role in the EEC

Why we must not retreat from Europe

The Common Agricultural Policy, in its present absurdly expensive form has soured the attitude of the British public to the European Community but it is not the only reason why Britain has been at best a reluctant partner in the Community. It is easy for Britain to underestimate the greatest achievement of the Community's creators, to make another civil war between Western European countries unthinkable, furthermore, the timing of Britain's entry into the Community could hardly have been more unfortunate.

Britain joined in the very year, 1973, that Western economic prospects began to darken. The Community has been held responsible for rising inflation, deepening recession and the other economic discontents of these past seven years, often quite unjustly. Certainly the Common Agricultural Policy contributed to higher food prices, but its contribution was much less significant than other factors such as increased energy costs. Between 1973 and 1980 the CAP added about 9 per cent to food prices which rose by nearly 200 per cent overall.

There is another reason, however, and it is an ironic one. Britain seems to have deliberately made the least possible use of the opportunities offered to her by the Community. The British citizen receives only half as much Community spending per head as the average Community citizen. This was due partly to lack of knowledge among local authorities and others entitled to claim help about the opportunities available, though they are now better informed; and partly to the British Government's unwillingness to stump up its share of social and regional expenditure.

Nor has Britain shown much interest in reforms that might

Shirley Williams: the Community is the only political entity in the world strong enough to make the superpowers take multilateral disarmament seriously . . .

have been expected to attract the attention of Socialists if not of Conservatives—for example the fifth directive on industrial democracy which requires that workpeople be represented on the boards of large companies or the code of conduct for multinational companies which requires that employees should be given much more information about the conduct, plans and financial conditions of the companies concerned. The Commission has also pressed for equal pay and equal working conditions for men and women. Under the Lomé convention, which includes the associated countries in Africa and the Caribbean, the Community has undertaken to stabilize the incomes of primary producers. Socialists might be expected to support all these policies, and most Socialist members of the European Parliament do so. But the British ones get little encouragement from Westminster or from the Labour Party.

The Community has much more weight in international negotiations on commerce and trade than any of its individual members, and it could have considerable political



weight as well. The first steps have been taken to establish a dialogue with the Arab states and even with the Palestine Liberation Organization to explore the chances of a lasting and peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

If the Community realized the potential in being a "coherent entity" in world affairs it could alter the forbidding prospects the world now faces. The Community could not bring about a transformation of the economic outlook on its own, but it could propose a plan based on the Brandt Commission. Such a plan might embody the idea that a small percentage of each country's Gross National Product, perhaps 1 per cent should be earmarked for aid to the Third World.

Until that step is taken, there will be neither a guarantee of continuity of funds nor a structure of redistribution of wealth on however modest a scale between nations as there is within nations.

The European Community could also become a force for disarmament, and one that must seek peace, for in any major nuclear war its destruction would be certain. The only significant recent initiative towards peace that seriously interested the Soviet Union was the visit by Helmut Schmidt, speaking on behalf of the Community, to Moscow in June 1980, which led to an agreement with President Brezhnev to discuss the possibility of a mutual withdrawal of medium-range nuclear weapons from Europe.

Until the Soviet invasion of Afghanisatan and the strkkes in Poland, Germany's Ostpolitik had been notably successful in easing tension along the border between the Soviet bloc and the Nato bloc. But Ostpolitik would not have been possible without the Federal Republic's membership of the European Community. Any rapprochement with the German Democratic Republic would have aroused intense suspicion, in West Germany as mcuh as elsewhere, that the two German states were seeking to re-unite.

The Community is the only political entity in the world strong enough to make the superpowers take multilateral disarmament seriously.

One argument for unilateral nuclear disarmament is that it would make the disarmed country a safer place, less likely to be attacked. It is surely clear that means would still need to be found to influence the superpowers towards peace, since any nuclear exchange between them would cause great destruction throughout the world. That is why the European Community's role in seeking detente in Europe and in pursuing arms limitation is more important for world peace than unilateral nuclear disarmament.

The next few years will bring about important internal changes in the European Community. Britain has an opportunity that will not recur to influence those changes so that the Community becomes more responsive to the needs of the people within it, as well as to the world outside. International tensions could be heightened by a right-wing American President surrounded by advisers who believe in a strong military posture, and by the strains of deciding upon a successor to Mr Brezhnev at a time of turbulence in eastern Europe. The Community is going to be badly needed as a force for peace and stability. For Britain to contemplate changes in it is sensible. But for Britain to withdraw would be to abidicate from responsibility at a dangerous time.

Will Europe's Middle East initiative ever take off?

Brussels

Later this month Mr Christopher Van de Klaauw, the Dutch Foreign Minister, and current president of the EEC's Council of Ministers, will set forth on a tour of 14 countries in the Middle East in search of a peace-making role for the Community which has so far shown all the elusive substance of a desert mirage.

It was last June in Venice that EEC heads of government issued their now famous declaration on the Middle East setting out the principles which they considered must form the basis of any lasting settlement between Arab and Jew.

This was to be followed by talks with all the countries concerned in the light of which the Nine, since grown to ten would "determine the form which an initiative on their part could take". More than seven months later the shape of this promised initiative remains indistinct to say the least.

The first diplomatic soundings were conducted last August and September by Mr Gaston Thorn, now President of the European Commission but at that time still Foreign Minister of Luxembourg. Mr van der Klaauw will be seeking more detailed reactions to the theoretical work the EEC has done in the meantime on approaches to a peace settlement.

What the Ten still have to show is whether, beyond ingenious theoretical solutions, they have anything concrete to contribute. European criticism of the shortcomings of the American-sponsored Camp David talks between Egypt and Israel may be entirely valid, but it has yet to be demonstrated that any other negotiating process would produce appreciably better results.

That was the constant if generally *sotto voce* complaint of the Americans under President Carter, and it is likely to be much amplified under President Reagan, particularly if new life is breathed into the moribund Camp David exercise.

The Camp David concept of Palestinian autonomy within a framework determined by Egypt and Israel and ultimately Jordan might still lead nowhere in the end. But for a time it could well appear to be making progress, making the Community's efforts seem increasingly tangential and irrelevant.

In those circumstances the EEC could be faced with a choice of either accepting that there was nothing useful it could do (and thus losing all credibility in the Arab world) or else dissociating itself much more sharply than hitherto from American policy. The latter course might well appeal to the French. But the British certainly and the Germans probably would see little to be gained from an open breach with Washington.

The two main points of disagreement are the Europeans' insistence that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) must be "associated" with the peace negotiations, and that the Palestinian people as a whole must be able to exercise the right of "self-determination", which is taken to mean the right to a separate state.

On the first, the Americans take the view that it is simply not realistic to expect an Israeli government, of any political colour, to treat with the PLO, which is seen in Israel as a terrorist organization bent on the destruction of the Jewish state.

On the second, the Americans do not find the introduction of the concept of self-determination helpful at this stage since it appears to preclude more ambiguous solutions, such as joint Israeli-Jordanian custodianship of the West Bank, which Mr Peres is known to favour and which they appear to think they might be able to talk an admittedly unenthusiastic King Husain into accepting.

The basis for Mr van der Klaauw's talks with Arab and Israeli leaders as he travels through the Middle East will be a confidential document setting out a range of options under four main headings: Israeli withdrawal, self-determination, security guarantees and the status of Jerusalem. His task will be to try to identify those offering the most possibilities for compromise.

The starting-point, in the EEC's view, must be a phased withdrawal by Israel over two years from the occupied territories of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights and East Jerusalem, with security being maintained by an international force under United Nations control.

The EEC accepts that full Palestinian independence would have to be preceded by some kind of transitional arrangement—possibly administrative autonomy under locally elected mayors—subject to international supervision. But the Community's ideas are still vague.

The range of suggestions for the status of Jerusalem include internationalization (either of the whole city or only the old quarter containing the holy places), partition, an Arab-Israeli condominium and a joint municipality run by locally elected representatives.

Under the security heading, Mr van der Klaauw will invite suggestions on the demarcation of demilitarized zones, limiting the size of armed forces, and the role that the EEC might play in helping to provide international guarantees of mutually recognized borders.

Michael Hornsby



Geoffrey Smith

Taking a turn for the better

The search for the middle ground has suddenly become fashionable again in British politics. Since the last election the battle between the parties has seemed to be a contest between the ideologues on both sides. But now the rise of the social democrats is changing the picture. Already the threat of a split in his party has forced Mr Michael Foot perhaps to modify and certainly to equivocate on some of his policies, and the natural electoral tactic for Labour will be to take further steps back towards the middle in order to cut the ground from under the new party once it is formed.

A frisson of anxiety is evident in the Conservative ranks as well. Ronald Butt argued on this page yesterday that they really have little to fear from the social democrats. That may be so. Certainly the Tories have no reason to be alarmed by the prospect of tactical voting by former supporters of theirs in favour of a social democrat in what are now Labour constituencies. And if there is to be an electoral pact with the Liberals, which the social democrats dearly want, they will have to stand down in favour of a Liberal candidate in many of the most vulnerable Conservative marginals in southern England.

Yet it is undeniable that the Conservatives do see a threat from the social democrats. Why else should that acute tactician, the chairman of the party, Lord Thorneycroft, have been telling the House of Lords on Wednesday how proud and happy he was to see the party securely placed on the "broad central ground of politics today"? We even had a scathing reference in passing to "rabid monetarists". That hardly sounded like the doctrine according to Sir Keith Joseph.

If the Conservatives are to clamber back on to the middle ground, how should they set about it? It is more a matter of style than of substance. Mrs Thatcher has been so busy proclaiming that "the lady's not for turning" that many people have not appreciated just how pragmatic this Government has become. The Prime Minister's television interview with Mr Brian Walden on *Weekend World* last Sunday was a case in point. The stock market picked up the hint of a possible further cut in interest rates, even though the money supply is not yet under control. But most reports of that interview concentrated on her determination not to reflate: "This is just the time when we have to stay on course and say, we are a government that's set out to do long-term things."

In other words, on specifics she indicated that she was pragmatic, but the general impression conveyed was one of unswerving fixity of purpose. There have been quite a few other specifics where the Government has been pragmatic. There is the money poured out for British Leyland and British Steel, with Sir Keith Joseph of all people unable to give an assurance in the Commons last week that this would be the last payment to BL.

Largely because of these demands from publicly owned industry the Government has been unable to cut public expenditure as it had intended: the plans left behind by Labour have been reduced, but not the absolute level of spending. A half share in British Aerospace is now to be sold off to private investors, but there is no sign yet that the role of the public sector in the British economy will be of less consequence by the next election than it was at the last.

There is now an incomes policy of a kind in the public sector, though not in the private sector. The Government's essays in the contentious field of trade union law reform have been moderate. The public sector borrowing requirement is well above target, and the money supply is out of control according to the Government's own most favoured indicator, M3—though ministerial preference for that indicator has been modified by its continued refusal to give the expected answers. This last instance is, though, an example only of accidental pragmatism since the last thing the Government intended was to let the money supply rise as it has.

On the whole, this Government has been nearly as pragmatic in its deeds as any administration would have been in this period. No government would have been able to have a fully-fledged incomes policy, even if it had wanted one, following the collapse of the Callaghan experiment. Any government would have been forced to cut back public spending in the present economic climate. Another government would have pursued a different tax policy, though it is unlikely that any administration would have reflated seriously with high, even if diminishing, inflation in an international recession.

It is just possible that a Labour government would have followed the alternative strategy of determined reflation in an economy protected by import controls, but not Mr Callaghan and his colleagues if they had been reelected in 1979.

The real distinction is that the present Government is not pragmatic in its rhetoric. Whereas Lord Thorneycroft was glorying on Wednesday in the aid to BL as evidence that the Conservatives occupied the centre ground, Mrs Thatcher spoke of it on Sunday as a decision that was "very, very difficult indeed". She is not able to take pride in the pragmatism of her administration for the simple reason that she is not proud of it. It has amounted to a series of concessions wrung from her by the pressure of events and her colleagues. To glory in them would encourage those colleagues and weaken resistance to events in the future.

Yet if the Conservatives feel that it is necessary to head off the social democrats by returning to the middle ground, they will have to adopt the rhetoric as well as the policies of pragmatism. Lord Thorneycroft was pointing the way. When they are forced into actions that offend their doctrine they will have to rejoice in them as evidence that they are not bound by dogma. They must present cuts in public expenditure as a regrettable necessity not a healthy discipline. Unemployment must always be described as a calamity, never as the application of an economic theory.

There are signs that Mrs Thatcher is trying to observe these rules, for some of the time at least. But the general impression she creates is invigorating or provoking, according to one's judgment—never reassuring. Yet the middle ground belongs to those who can reassure. I do not share the view of those who believe that Mrs Thatcher will be ditched by her party before the next election. But it is undeniable that she is not the best person to represent a comforting Conservatism, if that is what they decide to present to the country.

In the Children's Books feature on Wednesday, the address for the Penguin Book Club enquiries was incorrectly given. It is: 536 King's Road, London W10.

SIBERIAN DIARY

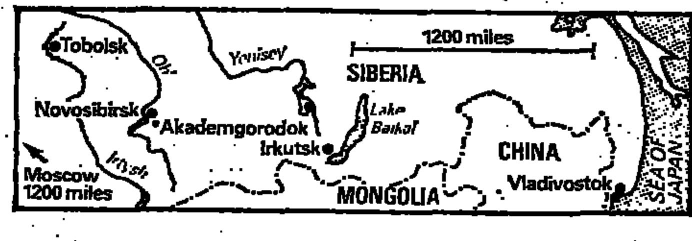
Siberia—the very name inspires awe and dread. Both to the Russian and to the foreigner it conjures up a vast frozen wasteland, a place of exile and punishment, a remote region of endless winter. But to today's planners and economists it has also come to mean the Russian El Dorado: a land of boundless natural wealth, a vast unexploited reserve of gold, coal, oil, iron ore and almost every natural resource needed for the future development of the Soviet Union.

What lies beneath the permafrost could make the Soviet Union the richest country in the world. It is the challenge of how to exploit this potential that still inspires awe.

For years Siberia has been isolated, challenging man with its harshness and vastness, and there is still a brash, tough frontier spirit among those who live in a region that covers more than six million square miles. The Siberians are proud of their endurance: "A hundred kilometres is no distance. Minus 40 degrees is no frost", they say.

It was, of course, the railways that opened up this mysterious land to the modern world, and led directly to the founding of today's unofficial capital of the whole region. In 1893 the Russian engineers building the Trans-Siberian railway came to the mighty River Ob, the fourth largest in the world. They built a bridge across the river and on its east bank a station and a town, which was named Novonikolayevsk in honour of the new Tsar Nicholas II. Eighty-eight years later the town has become a city of almost a million and a half, spilt over on to the other bank of the Ob, and has a post-revolutionary name—Novosibirsk.

Though farther from Moscow than London is, Novosibirsk is still considerably less than halfway along the Trans-Siberian railway from the Soviet capital to Vladivostok. The busy, modern city belies



the popular image of Siberia as a land of forest and taiga, mosquitoes and fir-trees, salt-mines and labour camps. The original wooden houses are almost all gone, and the remaining few threatened with the bulldozer.

Novosibirsk today is a city of trams and trolley-buses, broad tree-lined boulevards, parks, squares and modern blocks of flats. By Soviet standards it would do credit to European Russia west of the Urals, and you have the curious feeling that after all that travelling you have really gone no distance at all from Moscow. Its inhabitants often compare it to Chicago—"but we grew faster", they boast.

Deep blue

To an outsider the most striking thing is the climate. In summer the temperature can soar to 40 degrees Centigrade. But in winter it drops to minus 35 and sometimes touches minus 50—an incredible range of 90 degrees. summer the Siberains flock to the banks of the Ob to fish or sunbathe. Locals claim they enjoy more sunshine each year than the traditional Soviet holiday resorts on the Black Sea but in winter the Ob is covered with six feet or more of ice and you venture out at your peril. No city so far south in the world—Novosibirsk is on the same latitude as Carlisle—is so cold.

This year the inhabitants are all complaining that there has been no winter at all—temperatures have rarely fallen below minus 25 degrees. They like it cold, and after three days there I can see why. The sky is deep blue, the sun shines and the climate is bracing. It is far nicer than Moscow where the warm winter has meant continual slush and a rash of flu. And the cold gives every citizen a home-made deepfreeze: outside every window you can see bags of good hanging in the frost until needed.

Still, it is cold for the uniformed children who take turns guarding the eternal flame, changing every 15 minutes and marching away, machine-guns on their arms, with a peculiarly chilling and depressing slow goose-step. Novosibirsk was too far from the wartime front to suffer attack, but 30,000 people went off to fight and did not come back.

The only real fighting there went on during the civil war, when the city was occupied by the White army of Admiral Kolchak and then retaken by the Reds during that confusing campaign fought almost entirely up and down the Trans-Siberian railway. There is, of course, an appropriate memorial to the Red martyrs butchered by the Whites, and the guides expect a suitably partisan reaction to their tales of White terror.

Siberia is crucial to the Soviet Union's economic future, and Novisibirsk, as the capital, plays a central role. Though younger by some 200 years than other towns like Irkutsk and Tobolsk, Novosibirsk has easily outstripped them all. It lies in rich farming land and is also an important industrial and transport centre. A train passes through the station once very four minutes. Ships carry goods more than 1,000 miles down the Ob—to the towns and regions of the north.

But the real key to Siberian development lies 20 miles to the south amid picturesque birch groves—Akademgorodok, a purpose-built town to house hundreds of the country's most illustrious brains. Here scientists and economists, under the aegis of the important Siberian branch of the Soviet Academy of sciences, mastermind the future of the Siberian virgin lands, test the colossal development projects and draw up plans for the building of a second Trans-Siberian railway—now being built—or the reversal of the Siberian rivers to flow back down to the deserts of central Asia—plans that will probably remain for ever on the shelf.

Good salaries

The community was founded in 1957, in the heady days of the post-Stalin thaw, and by all accounts was an exciting place. Young scientists, lured from the western part of the country by good salaries and a relaxed life-style, could start everything afresh; order any western journals and books, join clubs that bubbled over with ideas and argument.

Some of the steam has gone out of the place as the brightest and best were enticed back to Moscow to other top jobs, and those remaining simply stayed on and grew older. The noted liberalism was curbed, some of the clubs were closed down and the experimental feel to the place gave way to institutionalism.

But Akademgorodok still has a pleasant campus atmosphere. Even the standard blocks of flats look tidier, better kept. The local restaurant is rather like a faculty club, the schools educate some of the brightest children in the region, most of the researchers have been abroad, and there is a curious sense that this small township, buried in the snow thousands of miles from the old centres of weat European culture, is more closely in touch with what is going on in New York, Paris or London than most other places in Russia.

Certainly culture has a good showcase back in Novosibirsk, an immense opera house, built during the war in lavish classical style, can seat 2,000 people and boasts one of the better ballet companies in the Soviet Union. The art treasures were evacuated there from Moscow during the war. There is not much to see in the way of old churches, however—only a couple of wooden Russian Orthodox churches built before the revolution, a synagogue and Baptist prayer house. The guide seemed rather proud of the fact: "Novosibirsk is a city of youth, a city of atheists", she proclaimed.

Technically Siberia stops short of the regions bordering the Pacific coast, which are known as the Soviet Far East, though most foreigners think of it extending from the Urals all the way to the sea. Foreigners are increasingly common in Siberia as tourism there gets going, but so far only five cities are open for package tourists as much of Siberia is either inaccessible or closed to foreigners for security reasons.

But though Siberia is still very Russian (Novosibirsk's population is 95 per cent Russian, and virtually none of the Soviet Muslim population from Central Asia have emigrated north), it is so vast, so still and so strange—rather like a desert—that it is impressive even to one used to the Russian scale of distances.

And winter really is the best time, as the old Russian proverb says: "In Siberia the winter lasts 12 months, the rest is summer."

Michael Binyon



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TWO NATIONS; INDEXED AND NOT

All members of pension schemes in the public services are entitled to pensions that are fully protected against inflation. It is not only civil servants who come into this category, but a good many others including teachers, the police, the armed forces, local government employees and MPs. Hardly anyone in the private sector enjoys similar benefits. Some occupational schemes have in practice largely compensated their members even for the extremely high levels of inflation in recent years, but even in these schemes the members do not have the same *advantage* of certainty. The new state earnings-related pension will cover people in the private sector, but the full benefits will not be enjoyed by anyone retiring before 1998—and in any case it will relate only to that portion of income which is equal to average national earnings or less, and will not cover the self-employed.

So this country is becoming in effect two nations in retirement: those with public sector pensions who do *not* need to worry about inflation and the rest of us for whom it must be a constant anxiety. It is the inequity between these two groups which presents the problem that has been examined by Sir Bernard Scott and his committee, whose report was published yesterday. They rightly do not see any abuse in an index-linked pension itself. Indeed, as a general principle it is highly desirable that the value of a pension with which a person goes into retirement should be preserved in real terms—provided that this is economically possible. But it is totally wrong that the benefit of this principle should be enjoyed in the public but not the private sector. That is both unjust and economically unhealthy because it gives a considerable additional advantage to employment in that sector on which the creation of wealth depends least.

There are three possible solutions to this dilemma. Public *service employees can continue to* enjoy this benefit, but be made to pay an economic price for it. The Scott report has some ideas on that score, but the difficulty about *this approach is that it is* impossible to fix the right price without knowing what the rate of inflation is going to be in future years. The Government Actuary may be right that the long-term rate will be no more than seven per cent, but most people will consider him an incorrigible optimist.

Another possibility would be simply to get rid of index-linking in the public sector on the ground that it gives too much of a good thing to too few. That would certainly be preferable to leaving things as they are. But it would not be an ideal solution because it would mean changing the terms of employment of a considerable number of people. The best outcome would be if members of occupational schemes in the private sector could be given the same advantage. The obvious objection to that is that no private company can afford to give such an undertaking to its employees in an age of high and extremely variable inflation, especially at a time when profit margins have been dangerously *squeezed*.

The Scott report suggests a possible means of meeting this difficulty by making indexed bonds available on the market. *Such bonds could be purchased* by pension funds and by the self-employed, who at the moment face special difficulties over pensions. This arrangement would *be in effect to bring the principle* of the "granny bond" to the rescue of private occupational pension schemes. Experience with the "granny bonds", which have been readily accepted by the public, suggests that if the capital sum is secured against inflation the interest payable need be only minimal. There are indeed practical objections to *such an* approach, but they can be exaggerated. The Government should respond to the report by considering actively and constructively *whether to issue a new pension* bond. Such bonds do after all help to reduce the fraud inherent in all inflationary finance.

A COURAGEOUS VISIT TO THE BASQUES

There was never any expectation that King Juan Carlos's visit to *the Basque country, which ended* yesterday, would be an easy one, or that he would get an enthusiastic reception from the public. By all accounts the King was *even strongly* advised by Señor Suárez, the outgoing Prime Minister, not to undertake it for fear either that he would come to some harm, or that he would be subjected to some gross indignity which would enrage the right. But he himself was determined to go ahead with the plan, and in the event he achieved the aims he had set himself. He showed his support for the concept of Basque autonomy within Spain, and by his own calmness and good humour in Guernica in the face of the demonstration by Herri Batasuna provided assurance for his supporters.

The demonstration was a reminder that Herri Batasuna, the most extreme of the Basque parties, which is linked to the more violent "military" wing of the ETA terrorist organization, is only a minority. Even Euskadiko Eskerra, which is associated with the "political-military" wing of ETA, did not join in, though its representatives studiously ignored the King, neither standing up when he arrived nor clapping his remarks. *The rest of the assembly, including* the Basque Nationalist Party, the largest of the Basque parties, applauded him, particularly when he attacked "those who *practise intolerance* and do not respect representative institutions or the most elementary rules of freedom of expression".

Most Basques clearly prefer the idea of autonomy within Spain to the mixture of separatism, Marxism and terror offered by ETA. But though the extremists and their supporters are a minority, they are still a sizeable minority, and there will have to be a sustained effort by Madrid if persistent Basque resentment is to be calmed and terrorism eliminated. All Basques have painful memories of the Franco regime, when attempts to express a separate identity were put down. They are suspicious of the King of Spain because he is the leader of the dominant Castilians. The economic difficulties that the Basque region is now going through, with traditional industries suffering badly from the recession, have provided extra fuel for discontent.

King Juan Carlos's visit was a step in the right direction. His *visit to Guernica was deliberately* symbolic, because of the historical associations that the town has for the Basques; and he acknowledged their feeling that their traditional rights, the basis of the relationship between themselves and the monarchy, had been violated. It had to be recognized, he said, that "historically, the integration of the Basque country through its links with the crown only became a problem when the traditional policy of mutual loyalties, which has been at the basis of our union, was broken".

The King's other audience was the Spanish right, in the Army and elsewhere, who are sensitive to the notion that Spain might be in the process of being dismembered through the government's process of devolution, not only in the Basque country, but also in Catalonia, Andalusia and Galicia. To them his message was that he was backing the devolution process, but that Spain *would remain intact. At a time* when Spain is temporarily without a government, because of the resignation of Señor Suárez last week, the King's voice carries a particular authority.

THE BUREAUCRATS OF BASINGSTOKE

It is the stuff that Ealing comedies used to be made from. Down in balmy Basingstoke the lone householder locks herself into her own home as an unlicensed squatter, with every man's hand against her (well, some of them). It must be hoped that the affair can be resolved without the intervention of comic policemen. Mrs Lawrence's former tenant, unemployed, is reported to be seeking an order to evict her, in spite of the fact that his own three months' lease has expired. He can easily be cast in the Peter Sellers role of diabolical liberty-taker, but it seems that it would be at least as true to represent him as a helpless tool of that other familiar villain of such pieces, narrow-minded local bureaucracy.

As far as the law is concerned, it is clear that Mrs Lawrence is in the wrong. She should have sought a possession order, a process that may take several weeks. If so, she says, the law is an ass. Nobody would disagree in general with that sensible Dickensian observation, but in this instance there are other asses in evidence. The tenant, Mr Goodall, *claims that the local* housing authority advised him that he had to go through the legal ritual of eviction if he and his family were to be rehoused as homeless. He only wants to get back in so that he can be thrown out in due form.

It is common today for councils to give advice of this kind to candidates for homelessness, in an attempt to minimize the costly extra burden put on their waiting lists by the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act. But the restriction has no basis in law. Like the borough of Wandsworth in a court case *this* week, Basingstoke has no power to bind itself by rules fettering its statutory discretion to house *those it considers to be in urgent* need of accommodation. In cases like this, where it is obvious that the tenant would have no case against an application for possession, it is absurd to impose extra delay, cost and distress merely to postpone the inevitable for a few weeks.

It is true that the legal machinery for an owner-occupier to regain possession after a short-term let is less elaborate than that ordained for landlords of other kinds of property. In theory, it can be done in a few days. In practice, a defendant can often string the process out for a couple of months. The whole process is apt to encourage blackmail or collusion. The procedure for evicting squatters, which Mr Goodall (householder in the eyes of the law) means to invoke, is much more rapid and certain.

The case is the kind of paradoxical affair from which wider lessons should be drawn only with caution. Tenants in general need strong legal safeguards against eviction from their homes when cheap accommodation is so hard to find. But a three months' tenancy is scarcely home, and the shortage is in part caused by occupiers' fears that they might have the same problems as Mrs Lawrence if they let their homes while they are away. Now that 55 per cent of homes are owner-occupied, the wasteful inflexibility that this introduces into the market is increasingly important. The problem of empty second homes in the country is made worse by similar fears. Where an owner wants his first or second home for his own use, and a limited tenancy has demonstrably expired, the process of repossession should be as quick and certain as the process for ejecting squatters.

Breath test controls

From Mr A. H. Parsons and Mr G. F. J. Hart

Sir, As analytical chemists we wholeheartedly agree with the comments of Mr T. E. Rymer (January 27) regarding the proposed new breath-testing procedure under the Transport Bill, 1980.

We would like to add that there are many other points in the new proposals which should give considerable cause for concern. For example, even if the new evidential breath-test instrument is operated and calibrated correctly by a fully trained operator, which, from the wording of the proposed legislation, would *not* appear to be a necessary prerequisite to obtaining a successful prosecution, the accuracy and precision of the new procedure is far from encouraging.

This is perhaps best illustrated by the figures given in the Government's own consultative document on the subject, which states *that* during the trials of the various evidential testing instruments, in which suspects were asked to give two consecutive breath samples, there was a difference *between* the two results of *more than 20mg* alcohol per 100ml of blood (when the breath results were converted to the equivalent blood figure) in *one in every 14 cases! It is* probably no coincidence therefore that the Government have felt it necessary to effectively raise the present limit of 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood to the equivalent of 92mg per 100ml of blood.

We are further concerned by the very real possibility that these new evidential breath instruments may be either innocently or knowingly cheated. For, to obtain a representative result, it is necessary for the instruments to analyze a sample of deep lung air, and *although* the instruments have various methods of trying to achieve this, they are, we believe, far from foolproof. Thus by such techniques as *incomplete* exhalation, *hyperventilation*, vigorous exercise, etc, it should be possible to provide unrepresentative samples, all of which would give rise to lower analytical results, thereby *effectively cheating* the system.

None of these techniques has any significant short-term effect on the concentration of alcohol in the blood and would thus not affect the *result* of the samples presently taken.

In conclusion, we would pose the question as to why it is necessary to change the present system of taking blood samples which are then accurately analyzed in a laboratory by fully qualified analytical chemists, to one which uses an inferior analytical procedure, largely takes away the suspect's present right of an independent check on the analytical result, and opens up the possibility of cheating.

The only claimed advantage of the new system would seem to be the ability to provide an instant result, but we are sure most people, especially in the case of borderline *samples*, would far rather *wait* for an accurate result than take the risk of an instant but unreliable one!

Yours faithfully,
A. H. PARSONS,
G. F. J. HART,
G. C. Laboratories Ltd,
Faldo Road,
Barton-le-Clay,
Bedfordshire.

Haigspeak implications

From Mr Michael Ambrose

Sir, Am I alone among *Times* readers in thinking that what General Haig is saying is more important than how he is saying it?

Surely we should be objecting to the improbability factors of his cold war politics, otherwise there may be none of us around to discuss the finer points of the English language.

Yours Haigbaitingly,
MICHAEL AMBROSE,
31 Imperial Road,
Windsor,
Berkshire.
February 3.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Exerting pressure on Russia

From Mr Cyril D. Townsend, MP for Bexleyheath (Conservative)

Sir, Sir Richard Dobson (January 30) suggests that the recent visit to Moscow by officials of the Department of Trade (not a trade mission in the normal sense of the term) is a sign that Britain has abandoned all the economic measures taken against the Soviet Union in disapproval of the invasion of *Afghanistan. This* seems to be wide of the mark.

Three specific measures were announced by the Government in January of last year. The credit agreement with the Soviet Government, which made available large amounts of credit at unreasonably favourable rates of interest, was not to be renewed when it expired in February, 1980. It has not been. The application of the rules of exporting strategic and sensitive technology to the Soviet Union was to be tightened. It has been. And the European Community decided not to replace on the Soviet market agricultural produce withheld by the United States.

Although that decision has not been implemented as rigorously as some of us would like, it has meant that the Russians have not been able to buy all the grain they needed. Where is the change of course in all this?

When those measures were announced, the Government said that normal trade with the Russians should be pursued on the basis of mutual advantage. Those who do business with state trading countries know the importance of the intergovernmental arrangements which facilitate trade and are essential if our exporters are not to lose out to their competitors in other countries.

As I understand it, the recent visit to Moscow was designed to keep these arrangements in working order. I do not see this as "creeping back again, looking for business": we have been looking for business all along, but within the constraints imposed by the measures on credits, technology and grain.

The extent of British moral support for the Afghan resistance, expressed through the Government's attitude to British participation in the Olympics and the continuing avoidance of prestigious cultural events, as well as by means of these economic measures, does not therefore seem to me to have lessened over the past year, much less been withdrawn.

Yours faithfully,
CYRIL D. TOWNSEND,
House of Commons,
February 2.

Soviet aims

From Mr Brian Thomas

Sir, Considering the controversial record of the Soviet Union in foreign policy, it is rather surprising that, at his first press conference *on January 29, President Reagan* chose to attack it in the area where it is least vulnerable.

He stated that since the Russian Revolution there had been no Soviet leader who had not repeated "their determination that their goal must be the promotion of world revolution and the one world socialist or communist state".

Certainly Lenin said something *very like this on August 2, 1915, two* years before he took power, but since then Soviet leaders have been remarkably consistent in asserting the opposite. It was Stalin, for example, who on March 1, 1936, made the statement which must presumably have been regarded as definitive, since it was repeated by Malenkov at the nineteenth party congress some 16 years later; while variations of the same theme were made many times by Khrushchev, and more recently in chapter 4 of the New (1977) Soviet Constitution:

We Marxists believe that a revolution will also take place in other countries. But it will take place only when the revolutionaries in those countries think it possible or necessary. The export of revolution is nonsense. Every country will make its own revolution if it wants to, and if it does not want to there will be no revolution.

Until President Reagan spoke, the debate has tended to be about whether Soviet actions match their words. It is curious that it is now the words themselves which are in dispute.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN THOMAS,
Hunters End,
Station Road,
Bentley, Hampshire.
February 2.

Canadian sovereignty

From Mr Laurence Wilson

Sir, The matter is simpler than commentators have supposed. When Westminster parliamentarians consider Mr Trudeau's Bill they will not be a United Kingdom legislature dealing with Canada's internal affairs: they will be a Canadian legislature (one of 12 with which Canada is now blessed, each with its *distinctive and limited powers*).

If this were not so, Britain would indeed be dealing with Canada's affairs, and Canada would not be a sovereign state, as it is internationally recognized to be.

It has always been so. When the first British North America Act was passed at Westminster it was done there because Westminster was the supreme legislature for British North America, not because it was the legislature for the United Kingdom.

Mrs Thatcher and her Cabinet colleagues would be guilty of interference if they were to offer any opinion about the merits of Mr Trudeau's Bill, for it is not the concern of the United Kingdom or its Government.

But Sir Anthony Kershaw and his fellow parliamentarians (report, January 31) will be doing their duty as honorary Canadians whether they pass, reject or amend Mr Trudeau's Bill, provided they do so in what they conscientiously believe to be the best interests of the Canadian people who entrusted them with that duty.

Yours faithfully,
L. WILSON,
The Manor,
Grendon Underwood,
Aylesbury.
February 1.

Liberal questions on a centre alliance

From Mr William Wallace

Sir, As a Liberal favourably inclined to the principle of cooperation with social-democratic defectors from Labour I watched the pronouncements of their leaders over their first week with a sense of deepening despair. The CSD (Council for Social Democracy) appear inexcusably ignorant about the Liberal Party and about Liberal policy, naively optimistic about the problems of establishing a new political movement, and unjustifiably complacent about the prospects of concluding an electoral agreement satisfactory to themselves *in the absence of prior* consultations on policy priorities and some experience of successful collaboration at Westminster.

To judge from the current social-democratic euphoria one might believe that the realignment of the left was a new and noble idea, needing only a band of enthusiasts to march round the walls of Westminster in order for the two-party *system to come tumbling down.* In reality, the issue is 20 years old; and Liberals have learned from the bitter experience of those years—and from the recurrent waverings of social democrats—that a few Labour defections and a rush of favourable publicity do not provide a substitute for established local activity and a consistent programme of policies.

The Liberal "revival" of 1961-63 was exhilarating, but our then untried party made a great many mistakes which contributed to its collapse in 1964. Since then we have painfully and slowly built up a mass party, *with the resilience* to withstand such adverse swings of opinion as the general election of 1979. We are not particularly disposed to hand what we have achieved over to a group which has initially displayed more concern with personalities and parliamentary careers than with policies, and displays a certain arrogance in its proprietary attitude both to "its" *slice of the electorate* and to "its" place in the political spectrum.

I would recommend a little more humility, and realism, to the leaders of the CSD, if they seriously intend to try for the cooperation with the Liberals which most public commentators and opinion polls assume to be the only way to reach a breakthrough at the next general election—only three years away.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM WALLACE,
49 St James's Drive,
Wandsworth Common, SW17.

From Mr Tom Cross

Sir, May I through your columns suggest an answer to the problems of the moderates in the Labour Party in its present mood, and the *establishment of a soundly-based* centre party, which I believe the country needs if we are to avoid extremism?

The Co-operative Party, which still has a separate identity, will not, I believe, wish to continue its long-standing alliance with a Labour Party set on a corporatist, undemocratic course. Those who recall the compassion and rugged independence of the Rochdale pioneers of the Co-operative Movement, the quality and tone of its fine newspaper, *Reynolds News*, and the reputation for decent, straight-dealing enjoyed by the Co-operative societies of today, will see in it an excellent vehicle for a social democratic party with clear economic and moral objectives which the electorate can recognize and, if it chooses, support.

I make the suggestion with no disrespect or lack of regard for the Liberal Party as the alternative. It is my view, however, that the difficult, diffuse concept of Liberalism *is not understood by the* electorate at large who, when they do give it their vote, do so largely from a motive of protest rather than conviction.

The principle of cooperation would, on the other hand, embody most of the aims of Liberals and be a recognizable platform for a social democratic party seeking to be an alternative government.

Yours truly,
TOM CROSS,
19 Higher Heyes Drive,
Kingsley, Warrington, Cheshire.

Hostages agreement

From Mr J. G. Merrills

Sir, In his attempt to justify a possible American renunciation of *the agreement with Iran, Mr* Harding (January 30) exhibits both a basic misunderstanding of the international law of treaties and an alarmingly superficial view of the interests of the new Administration.

As far as international law is concerned, it is clear from article 62(1)b of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties that a change of circumstances can only *be invoked if "the effect of the* change is radically to transform the extent of obligations still to be performed under the treaty." It is difficult to see how recent revelations concerning the ill-treatment of the hostages could be said to have this effect, nor how such behaviour could be said to constitute a material breach of the release agreement within article 60 of the *same convention.*

In connexion with both articles it must also be pointed out that the right to withdraw from a treaty depends not on whether one party "feels" that the provision in question provides such a justification, as Mr Harding asserts, but on the very different criterion of whether on the facts such a justification actually exists.

Although there is therefore no substance in arguments based on article 60 and 62 of the convention, the United States would in my view certainly be entitled to maintain that the hostages agreement was void for duress within the meaning of article 52 of the convention.

It does not follow, however, that repudiation of the agreement would be a politically sensible action at the *present time.* Apart from the obvious point that the frozen assets are Iranian property, so that repudiating the agreement could in itself provide no justification for their continued retention, it was Iran's obsession with punishment and revenge that produced the hostages crisis in the first place. It therefore seems odd that those self-same impulses should be offered to *President Reagan as a satisfactory* foundation for American-Iranian relations in the future.

Yours faithfully,
J. G. MERRILLS,
Faculty of Law,
Crookesmoor Building,
Conduit Road, Sheffield.

Artists' adviser

From the Chairman of the Arts Council of Great Britain

Sir, Mr Black and his distinguished co-signatories (January 31) omit to mention the most *important* fact about the Arts Council's funding of Artlaw Services.

The council welcomed this imaginative idea from the start, and indeed I myself chaired the public meeting at which *Artlaw Services* was launched. But it was always envisaged that the services would become self-financing within a year or two and they themselves initially asked the Arts Council for grant-aid for two years only, subsequently extended to March, 1981. This was a major factor in the council's decision to fund a service which was well outside the normal scope of its *activities.*

Artlaw succeeded perhaps even better than expected and, if it is still not self-financing, the reason must lie mainly in the level of charges made. Neither they nor we ever contemplated that the service would depend on council funding beyond the initial years. We are, however, very happy to support their appeal for assistance from other sources to the extent that this continues to be necessary.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH ROBINSON,
105 Piccadilly, W1.
February 2.

Future of 'The Times'

From Mr Keith Richardson

Sir, Unless a rescue operation goes through, Times Newspapers will cease to exist at the end of next month. Large numbers of loyal and long-serving employees, including myself, will be out of work. We have little chance of finding comparable employment in the present recession. The problem of how we are going to pay our rent and food bills is causing me, my family, and many of my friends and colleagues the most acute and urgent worry.

In this critical situation we have one firm chance of safety, in the deal with Rupert Murdoch. We are fortunate in that he is commonly *recognized to be the* most enterprising and successful newspaper man in Fleet Street today. Some of my colleagues might perhaps prefer another proprietor, but this is the only solid commitment. Everything else is speculation.

But now I hear that my colleagues on *The Sunday Times* have voted in effect to block the Murdoch bid by pressing for a reference to the monopolies commission. This foreign correspondent, at least, was given no prior notification of such a controversial move, and no opportunity to come to London, attend the chapel meetings, or make his own views heard. From the perspective of the Continent of Europe it looks like yet another *example of the death wish that in* recent years seems to have taken a grip of the entire British economy and which is so utterly inexplicable to the French, Germans and Belgians whom I meet in my everyday work.

Even at this late hour, may I ask my colleagues to reflect again, and spare a thought for those journalists and printers who want to keep *working for Times Newspapers* and who still believe that with vigorous and imaginative leadership it could be made to flourish again?

Yours, etc,
KEITH RICHARDSON,
(*Sunday Times* Common Market Editor),
7 Avenue des Tournesols,
Rhode, Belgium.
February 5.

City health care

From Mr Robert Davies

Sir, The British Medical Association's proposals for new incentives to improve family doctor services in inner cities (report, January 28) are only part of the response needed to tackle the growing problem of poor inner-city primary health care.

Our district forms the heart of the West End where local people can live cheek by jowl with doctors' surgeries yet, from our own survey evidence, find it almost impossible to register on a National Health Service list. Your report quoted the latest findings prepared for the Royal College of General Practitioners by our local GP, Dr Brian Jarman, which show how a small number of single-handed and aging GPs are defending the front line whilst *others* are restricting their NHS lists to an absolute minimum. This is contrary to the best interests of patients and has become intolerable in this district.

*Inner London, like other inner-*city areas, now requires a radical new approach to the provision of primary health care of which new incentives form only one component. My Community Health Council is pressing for two key measures. First, NHS resources must once again be earmarked for the development of inner-city health centres and primary health-care teams; in areas with high rents and building costs GP mortgage schemes are not viable.

Secondly, the Medical Practices Committee must at long last change its regulations on the numbers of GPs allowed to operate in an area; a GP with a minimum NHS list should not be counted as "one doctor" but "*half a doctor*", and the quota should be based on the population choosing to register in the area rather than the lower resident population.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT DAVIES, Chairman,
Soho & Marylebone Community Health Council,
13 Ingestre Place, W1.
January 29.

Safeguards on historic buildings

From Mr Douglas B. Hague

Sir, In reply to the letter by Mr John Harris (February 2), I have encountered an understandable reluctance on the part of some country house owners to have photographs of furnished interiors taken for security reasons. Such photographs can show the existence and exact positions of pictures and *other articles of value.* As the files of the Royal Commissions and National Monuments Record are open to the public, they remain an open invitation to potential thieves.

Secondly, as regards Mr J. K. Batey's fair comment (February 2) on the City of Oxford inventory account of Wadham College Library: it is only fair to point out that when "the Commissions" set out on their *daunting task in 1909*, barely a nod was given to any post-medieval buildings or features. It was some time before John Adam was "recognized", whilst now trainsheds and gasworks are favoured with lyrical descriptions.

Thirdly, it is to be hoped that the important and sad letter by Arnold Taylor (January 31) will be widely read. During and long after Dr Taylor's stay in Wales many great buildings have benefited from his scholarship and enthusiasm; his love of them was passed down to the custodians of the most remote sites, who always received from him a *kind word about the excellent* condition of "their" monument.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS B. HAGUE,
Maesglas,
Llanafan,
Aberystwyth,
Dyfed.
February 3.

From the Warden of Wadham College, Oxford

Sir, My college is concerned that inaccurate accounts have appeared in the press about alterations in the old library of the college (London Diary, January 8; *letters, January 21, February 2*). We acknowledge with regret that the college did not originally seek the relevant permissions at the right time, but there has been no vandalism.

Plain bookcases from the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries were removed before we had listed building consent and some plain plaster also. The original Jacobean *library* was lost long ago. The college is producing detailed drawings of the library as it was until a few months ago, and our future plans are under discussion with the appropriate authorities.

Yours faithfully,
STUART HAMPSHIRE,
Wadham College,
Oxford.
January 31.

Voice from the past

From Dr J. H. Crook

Sir, Not only did RSM Brittain have a superb parade ground voice but he also used it with devastating effect. While at Mons I sought to save myself some trouble by keeping an extra pair of boots, not however of the Army issue. They had square rather than round toes—a difference barely detectable even by myself.

Once the platoon was marching near the RSM. *He stopped it for a* quick and seemingly casual inspection. He let us go and not until the sergeant had marched us to the far end of the parade ground did that unforgettable voice come booming after us. "Sergeant—the third man in the back row has *non-military boots on.* Take his name!"

The splendour of the man is unforgettable and his kindliness *outside the parade ground situation* much to be remembered.

Yours, etc,
JOHN H. CROOK,
University of Bristol (Department of Psychology),
8-10 Berkeley Square, Bristol.

New coinage

From Mr Richard Thayer

Sir, While a facetious note has crept into one of the letters on this subject appearing in today's *Times* (January 30), one cannot help but agree with the admirable suggestions that some of our coins should have their distinctive and time-honoured names.

In a more serious vein, however, would it not now be opportune for a *radical change in* the value of our notes and coins to take place by the simple expedient of moving the decimal point one place to the left?

Both France and Germany—to mention only two—made this change in postwar years and with a measure of success. It cannot be denied, of course, that one or two minor disadvantages might result but the half-penny coin is still with us and, on the whole, the advantages which would be gained would be too numerous to mention in this letter; manageability, in all its senses, of the currency would accrue and the Mint might thus be spared the need to create a £1 coin.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
RICHARD THAYER,
196 Oxford Street, W1.
January 30.

From Mr A. H. R. Christian

Sir, Alas! the pound note-postage stamp suggested by Mr Kemp in his letter today (January 30) will never be needed.

By extrapolating the increases in postal charges along with deterioration in performance, it can be shown that around the time that first-class postage reaches 90p, the service will have become non-existent.

Yours faithfully,
A. H. R. CHRISTIAN,
The Mead,
Parsonage Downs,
Dunmow, Essex.
January 30.

From Dr K. E. Machin

Sir, If Dr Martys (February 3) is right, and the 50p piece is a regular heptagon, we must presumably attribute the bulging of its sides to *inflation.*

Yours faithfully,
K. E. MACHIN,
Queens' College,
Cambridge.
February 3.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
February 5: By command of The Queen, the Lord Hamilton of Dalzell (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon upon the departure of Princess Alexandra, the Hon Mrs Angus Ogilvy and the Hon Angus Ogilvy for France, and bade farewell to Her Royal Highness and Mr Ogilvy on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 5: The Prince of Wales, attended by Major John Winter, visited HMS Invincible at sea today.
His Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 5: The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron, opened an ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) conference and in the evening attended a dinner, to mark their tenth anniversary, at the Royal College of Physicians, London.
Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
February 5: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy, attended by the Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard, left Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight to visit Paris, where Her Royal Highness will open an exhibition of the works of Thomas Gainsborough at the Grand Palais, will lay the foundation stone of the new wing of the Hertford British Hospital and visit the British Cultural Centre.
Upon arrival at the Airport, Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were received by Monsieur Michel Huriet, representing His Excellency the French Ambassador, Sir Donald Logan, *Special Representative of the* Secretary of State for Foreign and *Commonwealth Affairs and Mr* Michael Maine, Deputy Director, Heathrow Airport, London.

Today is the twenty-ninth anniversary of the accession of the Queen.

The President of the United States is 70 today.

A memorial service for Mr R. W. Nevin will be held in the Chapel of St Thomas's Hospital on Tuesday, February 17, at noon.

Birthdays today

Mr Claudio Arrau, 78; Sir Denys Buckley, 75; Mr Peter Cadbury, 63; Sir John Gardener, 84; Air Marshal Sir Victor Goddard, 84; Mr J. E. C. Hill, 69; the Rev E. Garth Moore, 75; Mr Denis Norden, 59; Lord Roskill, 70; Mr Keith Waterhouse, 52; Lord Woolley, 76; Mr Billy Wright, 57.

Royal Marines Concerts

The Countess Mountbatten of Burma was the principal guest on February 4 at the first night of the Mountbatten Concerts 1981 given by the massed bands of her Majesty's Royal Marines in the Albert Hall in aid of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children and Service charities. She was accompanied by her husband, Lord Brabourne.
The concerts, which are given each year, provide a continuing tribute to the late Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma, former Life Colonel Commandant Royal Marines.
Lieutenant-General Sir John Richards, Commandant General Royal Marines, and Lady Richards were hosts on both Wednesday and Thursday nights. Guests on February 4 included:
Mr Keith Speed, MP, and Mrs Speed, Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi, Sir Kirby Laing, Professor and Mrs Gilroy, the Rev W. P. Baddeley, Mr and Mrs K. B. Robinson, Mr and Mrs D. J. Pepper and Mr and Mrs P. Points, and on February 5: Sir Donald and Lady Gosling, Sir Archie and Lady Lamb, Vice Admiral and Mrs R. J. Hays, Mr and Mrs B. Henry and Mr and Mrs P. J. F. Green.

Bridge teams chosen

By Our Bridge Correspondent
The teams to represent Great Britain in the Common Market Bridge Championship in Birmingham between April 29 and May 2 are:
Open series: R. Mervis and A. Calderwood; C. P. Dixon and V. Silverstone; A. R. Forrester and R. Smolski.
Under 26 years: G. T. Kirby and S. J. Lodge; T. Pike and R. Bentley; M. H. Clarke and J. Wyndham.
The non-playing captains will be announced after consultation with the teams.

£10,000 bond winners

The winning numbers in the February Premium Savings Bond draw for prizes of £10,000 are: 3ES 585360 (winner lives in Devon), 4ES 885308 (Hertfordshire), 10KP 405010 (Enfield, London), 14PB 435670 (Cornwall), 11TT 493279 (Cornwall).

Bishop resigns

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Menevia, Mgr Langton Fox, has resigned because of ill health from his post in Wales, the Vatican announced yesterday. Mgr John Ward, Coadjutor Bishop, succeeds him automatically.

Decision that Church of England will not reexamine issue this month ends hope of a change

Ban on remarriage of divorced people is likely to stay

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

The rule forbidding the remarriage of divorced persons by the Church of England is unlikely to be successfully challenged in the foreseeable future.

The standing committee of the General Synod, having considered evidence of opinion in the church, has decided that it does not have a mandate to reopen the issue when the synod returns to the subject of church policy on marriage and divorce later this month.

Although it is not impossible for an individual member to raise it, that decision almost certainly marks the end of widely held hopes of a change.

It has been one of the most contentious issues in the Church of England for many years, with a history of several reports and debates, none of which led to a clear outcome.

With different membership from that at present, the synod voted against the recommendation of the General Synod Marriage Commission in 1978 that church marriage should be available to the divorced in some circumstances. But debate on all the commission's recommendations had not been completed when the whole matter was referred to the 43 diocesan synods.

Had those taken a strong line in favour of the commission on the main point, it was at least possible that the General Synod would reverse its policy, particularly as elections for a new synod membership were due.

The standing committee considered that voting in the diocesan synods revealed an equal split, and it may also have taken into account the general view that the elections had not produced a less conservative synod, probably the opposite.

Nevertheless, the diocesan synods did disclose some dissatisfaction with the present rules on divorce, particularly the automatic exclusion from communion of divorced persons who remarried.

That is one of the surviving recommendations of the marriage commission, which are now to come before the synod for debate in the shape of a proposal to drop the requirement that readmission to Communion after divorce and remarriage can be authorized only by a bishop. It would leave it to the judgment of the parish clergy, with the presumption that there would be no difficulty, except in notorious cases.

The standing committee is also to ask the synod to agree that public services of blessing, held after the register office remarriage of a divorced person, should be continued.

If that is carried, it is expected that a formal service will be published for use on such occasions, clearing up some of the ambiguity that has been attached to such services in the past. The complaint was made that those services were sometimes almost indistinguishable from a marriage.

The synod will also be asked to relax the rules that virtually forbid the ordination of a divorced man and prevent a divorced clergyman from continuing in the parish ministry. The bishop would be given much more discretion to judge cases on their merits, as has already begun to happen unofficially.

The synod, which will face those issues, starts its meeting on February 23 and has elsewhere on its agenda several other highly controversial issues on which opinion is about equally divided.

It will debate a neutral motion on homosexuality, taking note of a working party report that urged some relaxation of the church's traditional opposition to homosexual behaviour, together with a more restrictive statement by the Board for Social Responsibility.

The combination of those two moves will make it impossible to interpret the debate as a shift in the church's position in any direction, thus taking most of the heat out of an issue that has caused a great deal of upset on both sides.

It will also have before it, in two forms, the issue of church unity and the fate of the "covenant" which is proposed as a formal bond between the Church of England and the participating Free Churches.

It will be asked to set the height of its own hurdle: whether the final decision on the covenant should require a two-thirds majority, which is lower than the required majority for the Anglican-Methodist unity scheme 10 years ago. It will also debate the terms of the covenant itself.

Three specific propositions will have to receive clear majorities if the covenant is to survive this meeting of the synod, and the result is expected to be close.

The synod will have to say that it is satisfied with the proposals for incorporating provincial moderators of the United Reformed Church into the episcopate; whether it approves the machinery for bringing all priests and ministers into one ministry, thereby rendering them mutually recognized and interchangeable; and whether the means proposed for dealing with the existence of woman ministers in the Free Churches are acceptable, given that the Church of England does not allow the ordination of women.

The synod will not debate a private member's motion which was on the agenda last November, and which asked for revision of the Act of Settlement in respect of a marriage between an heir to the throne and a Roman Catholic. The mover has withdrawn it to give time for the standing committee to prepare a report on the issue from the point of view of the Church of England.

Instead, it will debate a motion welcoming the visit of Pope John Paul II in 1982, expressing the hope that it will advance the unity of the Church of England with the Roman Catholic Church.

Another private member's motion, which may not be reached, condemns the Government's British Nationality Bill as "racially divisive and socially inequitable". There may be a procedural move to give that motion priority.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. M. P. Colman and Miss S. E. Britland
The engagement is announced between Jamie, elder son of Sir Michael Colman, Bt, and Lady Colman, of Malshanger, Basingstoke, Hampshire, and Sue, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Britland, of 15 Straylands Grove, York.

Mr D. T. Allen and Mrs R. Hutchison
The engagement is announced between Derrick Thomas, only son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Allen, and Alison, widow of Mr R. Hutchison, and daughter of Mr and Mrs A. B. MacLeod.

Mr A. G. Bennett and Miss B. Ayton
The engagement is announced between Arthur Bennett and Brenda Ayton, both of Crowborough, East Sussex.

Mr P. Bobroff and Miss J. M. Fox
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs Ben Bobroff, of London, N2, and Janice Michele, daughter of Mr and Mrs Harold Fox, of London, NW4.

Mr J. O. C. de Bosdari and Miss C. R. M. Baker
The engagement is announced between Julian, only son of the late C. D. de Bosdari and Mrs E. M. G. de Bosdari, of Chalk House, Wrotham, Kent, and Candida, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Alfred Baker, of Cobhambury House, Cobham, Kent.

Mr M. J. Broadway and Miss J. Martin
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs John Broadway, of Ramsbury, Wiltshire, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr L. Martin and the late Mrs M. Martin, of Bradley, Illinois, United States.

Mr C. E. Chamberlain and Miss A. D. Doughty
The engagement is announced between Colin, son of Mr and Mrs *E. R. Chamberlain, of Thorpe* Bay, Essex, and Anne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs H. G. Doughty, of New Zealand.

Mr J. C. Dalton and Miss L. A. Wilson
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs L. C. F. J. Dalton, of Water House Cottage, Linchmere, Haslemere, and Lucy, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. J. Wilson, of Church Farm House, Tudeley Lane, Tonbridge.

Dr J. J. Dixey and Miss D. C. Fanshawe
The engagement is announced between Jeremy John, youngest son of Dr and Mrs J. R. B. Dixey, of Elm Lodge, Streatley, Berkshire, and Diana Claire, daughter of the late Commander R. H. Fanshawe, Royal Navy, and Mrs Fanshawe, of Glenmore House, Churt, Surrey.

Mr M. R. Elsom and Miss A. S. Bagshawe
The engagement is announced between Michael Robert, only son of Dr and Mrs Elsom, now of Lyme Regis, Dorset, and Albinia Sarah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Bagshawe, of Sandon, Stafford.

Mr D. F. Fletcher and Miss J. K. Bethell
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs L. Fletcher, of Hafod, Sherfield-on-Loddon, Hampshire, and Jane, youngest daughter of Captain R. K. S. Bethell, Royal Navy, and Mrs Bethell, of Imberdown, Liss, Hampshire.

Mr A. L. Gold and Miss M. J. Knorpel
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and *Mrs Bernard Gold, of 19 Manor* Road, Cheam, Surrey, and *Melanie*, daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry Knorpel, of 32 Sunnybank, Epsom, Surrey.

Mr C. G. Miller and Miss S. R. Baker
The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of Dr and Mrs R. Miller, of Clapham, Bedfordshire, and Sally, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. C. Baker, of Waresley, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

Mr H. M. Nicholson and Miss L. I. Smart
The engagement is announced between Howard, son of Mr and Mrs John R. Nicholson, of 10 Slyne Road, Lancaster, and Luisabel, elder daughter of Professor and Mrs Ninian Smart, of Westbourne House, Westbourne Road, Lancaster. The marriage will take place in the summer.

Mr H. W. G. Patterson and Miss P. A. Colbatch Clark
The engagement is announced between Hugh, elder son of Major-General and Mrs A. G. Patterson, of Burnt House, Benenden, Kent, and Philippa, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. Colbatch Clark, of Badnage Court, Canon Pyon, Herefordshire.

Mr T. C. Sheridan and Mlle M.-H. Rey Maréchal
The engagement is announced between Timothy Carlton, only son of Mr and Mrs Bernard Sheridan, of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, and Marie-Hélène, elder daughter of M and Mme Guy Rey Maréchal, of Manosque, Haute-Provence.

Mr I. P. Sinclair and Miss D. C. Franks
The engagement is announced between Ian, eldest son of Mrs D. Sinclair and the late Mr P. Sinclair, of London, and Danielle, only daughter of Dr and Mrs H. L. Franks, of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Marriage

Mr E. Gethin James and Mrs M. G. B. Hollis
The marriage took place quietly at Aldershot on January 31 between Mr Gethin James and Mrs Margaret Hollis.



Keith Waldegrave

Daniel Barenboim rehearsing with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Festival Hall in London yesterday for the first of three concerts commemorating his London debut with the orchestra.

Broadway musical coming to West End

By Our Theatre Reporter
Four West End openings were announced yesterday, offering theatregoers two new musicals, a transfer from a suburban theatre and a one-man show.

The Broadway musical play *I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road*, by Gretchen Cryer and Nancy Ford, will open at the Apollo Theatre on March 31, with Diane Langton and Ben Cross leading the cast. The show has been running in New York since May, 1978.

Cats, the latest musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber, using lyrics by T. S. Eliot, will receive its premiere at the New London Theatre on April 30. It is directed by Trevor Nunn, and its cast will include Judi Dench, Wayne Sleep, Bonnie Langford and Sarah Brightman.

Noel Coward's *Present Laughter*, with Donald Sinden in the leading role, will transfer from the Greenwich Theatre to the Vaudeville, opening there on March 17, and Max Wall will present his one-man show, *Aspects of Max Wall*, at the Garrick Theatre from February 16 for four weeks.

Audience survey: The National Theatre has commissioned a two-year survey to find out the structure of its audiences, their attitude to visiting the theatre and their response to the services provided.

The National said it was the first survey to attempt continuous research on one theatre over a long period; the Society of West End Theatre is also starting a more general survey.

Survey work for the National will be carried out by the City University and by the market research company, Marplan; the cost of the university's work will be met by a charitable donation and that of Marplan will be paid for partly by Capital Radio.

Capital said it was helping as part of its support for the arts in London. Marplan intends to obtain some of its information through discussion groups of audience members, and Capital will record them for possible broadcasting.

Memorial service

Mr M. Macdonald
A memorial service for Mr Murray Macdonald was held at St Paul's, Covent Garden, yesterday. The Rev Michael Hurst-Bannister, Actors' Church Union, officiated, assisted by the Rev John Knight. Mr Andrew Cruickshank and Mr Peter Barkworth, who gave an address, also took part in the service. Among those present were:
Mrs O. McPherson (sister), Mr and Mrs Tim Honeyman, Mrs M. E. Wilson, Mrs D. Logan, Mr Alexander Honeyman, Mr James Honeyman, Mr and Mrs D. Honeyman, Mr and Mrs J. McPherson, Mr and Mrs U. Parkinson, Mr and Mrs J. Keir, Mrs J. Davenport.
Lady Nugent, the Hon William Douglas Home and Baroness Dacre, Mr and Mrs John Stevens, Mrs Cruickshank, Mr Martin Tickner, Mr Robert Flemyng, Mr Anthony Holland, Mr David Elton, Mr Nigel Patrick, Mr Michael Denison and Miss Dulcie Gray, Miss Joyce Carey, Mrs Anthony Thesiger, Mr Reginald Grenfell, Miss Dorothy Dickson, Mrs Anthony Quayle, Mr Allan Davis, Mr and Mrs Michael Relph, Miss Kitty Black, Miss Hero de Ranco, Miss Evelyn Laye, Mr Robert Harris, Mr Norman Wright, Mr Paul Rogers, Mr Ernest Clark, Miss Joan Henley, Mr Robert Eddison, Miss Betty Baskcombe, Mr Jack Barham, Miss Wendy Toye, Miss Celia Johnson, Mr Simon Williams, Miss Margaretta Scott, Mr Stephen Mitchell, Mr Peter Bridge, Mr Dennis Arundell, Mr Julian Belfrage, Miss Rachel Gurney, Mr Toby Rowland, Mr Raymond Francis, Mr Peter Saunders, Mr Patrick Ide, Mr and Mrs Percy Hoskins, Mr Laurier Lister, Miss Jill Esmond, Miss Athene Seyler, Mr Bernard Baschwitz, Miss Rosalind Ransford, Mr Anthony Buckley, Mr and Mrs Owen Griffith, Mr Ian Keith, Mr Christopher Page, Mr Michael Northern, Mrs John Casson, Mr Anthony Holland, Miss Elizabeth Allan, Miss Jill Askew, Miss Verity Hudson, Mr Neil Crawford, Mr Charles Hickman, Mr Clem Butson (Deford Organization), Mr R. J. Rhymes (Society of West End Theatres), Miss Ann Jones (Gallery First Nighters' Club), Mr Anthony Peek (Theatre Royal, Haymarket), Mr John Gale (chairman, Theatres National Committee), and Mrs Gale and Mr Laurence Harbottle (president, Theatre Managers Association).

Latest wills

Major Arthur Jacobson, of Binfield, Berkshire, left estate valued at £113,959 net. He left £60,000 to his housekeeper, Mrs P. Marriner.
Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Brownlow, Mr John Eason, of Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, author £195,953
De Lay Hey, Mr Christopher George James Oldridge, of Lechlade, Gloucestershire .. £200,640
Forman-Hardy, Miss Cynthia Joan, of Lymington, Hampshire £450,208

Latest appointments

Sir Gordon Slynn nominated for Luxembourg post



Sir Gordon Slynn, who has been nominated as an Advocate-General to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg. He succeeds Mr Jean-Pierre Warner, QC, who has been appointed a High Court Judge and returns to England.

Sir Gordon, aged 49, is at present President of the Employment Appeal Tribunal. He has been a High Court judge since 1976, and is widely regarded as one of the most able judges of his generation.

An Advocate-General to the EEC Court has the same status and salary as a judge of that court. It is his task to guide the judges on the issues raised in cases before the court, and to reach a conclusion on the result. The judges of the court are not obliged to follow his advice, but generally do so.

Sir Gordon's wife is French, and he speaks the language fluently.
Other appointments include:
Mr Norman Macfarlane and Mr William Mackay to be members of the Royal Fine Art Commission for Scotland in succession to Mr Alan Reiach and Professor Alan Thompson.
Mr H. P. Stone to be President of the Incorporated Association of Architects and Surveyors.

Correction

Mr John Miller is to be head of features and educational programmes at TV South, not the BBC's Open University Productions as stated on Wednesday.

Luncheons

Lord Greenhill of Harrow
Lord Greenhill of Harrow gave a luncheon at the House of Lords on Wednesday to commemorate the first 10 years of GAP Activity Projects. Mr Peter Willey, chairman, spoke of the progress made by GAP in the past and of his hopes for its future expansion. Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, congratulated GAP on its achievements and in commending most warmly its work for young people wished it well in its future activities.

Butchers' Company
The Master of the Butchers' Company, Mr David Cornell presided at a court luncheon held at Butchers' Hall yesterday. The toast of the guests was proposed by Mr Timothy Denham-Smith and Lieutenant-Colonel U. Corbett, president of the British Poultry Federation, replied.

National Maritime Museum
The Hon Anthony Cayzer, chairman of the trustees, and Dr Basil Greenhill, director, entertained the following guests at luncheon at the National Maritime Museum yesterday:
Lord Hunt, Sir David Hunt and Sir Kenneth Clucas, Permanent Secretary, Department of Trade.

Brampton Park Officers' Mess
Air Marshal Sir John Gingell, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, RAF Support Command, and officers of Brampton Park Officers' Mess, RAF Brampton, held a dinner last night. Group Captain C. G. H. Pierce presided. Air Vice-Marshal E. C. Dunn, Air Officer Maintenance, RAF Support Command, was the principal guest.

Service dinners

Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785
A dinner was held yesterday by the Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785 at the Army and Navy Club to celebrate Founders' Day and to entertain members of the Admiralty Board. Admiral Sir David Williams presided and the guests of the evening were:
Viscount Trenchard, Mr Keith Speed, MP, Admiral Sir Henry Leach, Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi, Vice-Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Vice-Admiral Sir William Pillar, Vice-Admiral W. D. M. Staveley, Sir Arthur Hockaday, Sir John Charnley, Mr A. A. Pritchard and Lieutenant Commander P. C. Sutherland, RN.

Dinners

Society of Apothecaries of London
The Master of the Society of Apothecaries of London, Mr Guy Blackburn, and the Junior Warden, Dr T. D. Whittet, entertained members and guests of the society at dinner at Apothecaries' Hall yesterday. Those present included:
Sir Gordon Wolstenholme, Professor Sir Hans Kornberg, Sir Peter Mansfield, Sir Lindsay Ring, Mr W. A. Clark, Mr Ric Throssel, Mr Henry Thompson, Mr R. de Vere, Dr P. H. Willcox, Mr J. Blaxland, Professor A. J. Dudgeon, Mr K. Digby-Jones, Dr M. P. W. Godfrey, Mr J. R. Stewart, Dr T. L. W. Collings, Mr D. B. Mackie, Professor A. Crisp, Mr C. A. Hart and Judge Wild.

Institute of Refrigeration
Lord Vestey and the High Commissioner for Australia were guest speakers at the annual dinner of the Institute of Refrigeration held at Grosvenor House yesterday. Mr J. J. Wilson, president of the Institute was in the chair.
The High Commissioner for Canada, Mr E. W. Hall, Professor G. G. Haselden, Mr R. H. Hemmings, Mr B. Hildrew and Mr L. D. Trenchard were among the guests.

Anchorites
The monthly dinner of the Anchorites was held last night at the Café Royal, under the presidency of Mr F. M. Everard. The principal guest was Mr D. B. Kimber, president of the Royal Institution of Naval Architects.

RAF officers graduate

Air Vice-Marshal D. P. Hall, Air Officer Commanding No 38 Group Strike Command, was the reviewing officer when 116 officers of No 48 Initial Officers Training Course graduated from Royal Air Force College Cranwell yesterday.
The sword of merit was awarded to Flying Officer G. J. Davey, BSc, and the sash of merit to Pilot Officer G. E. Larkin, WRAF. The Hennessy Trophy and Philip Sassoon Memorial Prize were awarded to Flying Officer R. Sayer and the Alasdair Black Memorial Trophy was awarded to Pilot Officer M. T. Doel, BEd. The British Aircraft Corporation Trophy was awarded to Pilot Officer N. Collins-Bent.
The following officers graduated:
GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH (pilot) Flight Lieutenant P. C. Gay, BSc; Flying officers P. G. Carr, BSc, G. J. Davey, BSc, G. A. Fagg, BSc, I. J. Ferguson, M. Jones, BSc, S. McLaughlin, BSc, L. J. Patterson, BSc, M. I. Raymond, BSc; Pilot officers J. Braida, M. R. Bridge, BSc, D. Chandler, BSc, G. R. Chichester-Constable, BSc, P. W. Y. Christmas, BSc, J. A. Dawson, BSc, D. D. Finlay-Maxwell, BSc, M. J. Groombridge, BSc, R. G. Hindhaugh, B Tech, S. R. Jenkins, BSc, C. R. D. Jenkinson, BA, M. R. B. Kavanny, BSc, G. C. Miller, B Tech, R. M. Mitchell, BA, G. R. Monk, BSc(Eng), ACGI, R. G. Mowbray, BSc, S. P. Newbold, BSc, A. C. O'Dowd, BSc, T. J. Parker, BSc, M. A. Petrie, D. P. M. Roberts, BSc, R. Sadler, BSc, A. C. B. Singer, BSc, R. W. Taylor, BSc; Acting pilot officers W. J. Arathoon, J. A. Dearden, R. A. Firmston-Williams, S. J. R. Harcourt, R. M. Harle, J. Horrocks, D. J. M. Howard, I. J. MacLean, G. J. Molloy, J. C. Petrie, S. W. Rix, K. S. Rosie, G. K. Simpson, P. J. Smythe, G. W. C. Wheeler, C. R. Whittaker, M. G. Warden.
GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH (air engineers) Flying officers I. A. Leddra and C. Reeves.
GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH (air electronics) Flying Officer R. J. Webb.
GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH (ground) fighter control Pilot Officer M. J. Crumpton, BA; Acting pilot officers P. Cothey, S. Y. Ellis, WRAF, R. Lomas.
GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH (ground) aircraft control: Flying Officer G. E. Collins; Pilot officers S. E. Bishop, BEd, WRAF, and S. C. Hawley, BSc; Acting pilot officers E. A. Aiken, WRAF, K. R. Benfield, WRAF, A. M. Giles, WRAF, J. T. Hitchenough, WRAF.
ENGINEERING BRANCH Flying officers D. A. J. Brooks, BSc, C. J. Porter, BSc, K. E. Prout, W. McK. Reid, PhD, BSc, J. M. Sadler; [illegible]
SUPPLY BRANCH [illegible]
R. M. Veale, BA, R. C. Williams, BSc, NDA; Acting pilot officers D. J. Howlett, WRAF, C. L. Jones, WRAF, and J. Pike.
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH (secretarial) Flying Officers R. Sayer and J. K. Wheeler, BA; Pilot officers M. K. Doel, BEd, M. R. Firth, BA, L. K. Foster, BA, WRAF, G. Lee, MSc, C. A. Peters, BA, WRAF, C. M. Tippett, M. H. Wadmore, BSc, WRAF; Acting pilot officers A. L. Payn and K. Rayson, WRAF.
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH (education) Flying officers P. Anderson, BA, WRAF, G. Hamshaw, BSc, G. J. Lewis, BA, G. C. Parsons, BSc, ARCS, B. J. Yardley, BSc, WRAF.
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH (catering) Flying Officer C. K. Wookey; Pilot officers M. G. A. Parley-Wood, G. F. Larkin, WRAF and J. B. Shillabeer, BSc, WRAF.
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH (physical education) Flying Officer S. J. Ross, BEd, [illegible]
Omani Air Force
AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL [illegible]

OBITUARY

MR GEOFFREY DYSON

Pioneer in athletics coaching techniques

Mr Geoffrey Dyson, OBE, who died yesterday at the age of 66, was not only a highly successful and spirited athletics coach, but also introduced a new level of mechanical analysis into sport, both in this country, and overseas.

Geoffrey Harry George Dyson was born in Camberwell, South London, on June 22, 1914, and developed his first interest in sport at school. He ran away from home at the age of 15, doing odd jobs and selling newspapers in London until enlisting in the Somerset Light Infantry, in March, 1931.

Whilst in the Army he learned his early coaching techniques by attending the Amateur Athletic Association's Summer Schools from 1935 to 1937 at Loughborough College, whose permanent staff he joined as a lecturer in athletics in 1938. The following year, his own competitive career as a promising hurdler was abruptly ended when he was classed as a professional by the AAA because his job contravened the amateur rules of the day.

During the war, he saw service in Gibraltar, France, East Africa and Italy, reaching the rank of major, and organizing physical training, and athletics for the troops.

He returned to Loughborough College after the war, but in 1947, was appointed to the new position of chief national coach to the AAA. He held this position for 14 years, often crossing swords with the administrators, until his resignation in 1961. The post was discontinued afterwards.

Even in his earliest days, Dyson was particularly interested in the application of mechanical principles to analysis of athletics techniques, now known as biomechanics, and his book *The Mechanics of Athletics*, published in 1961, is still regarded as a coaching classic.

In addition to his boundless energy as an administrator and lecturer, he also personally coached some of Britain's leading post-war athletes, including the 1948 Olympic 80 metres hurdles silver medallist, Maureen Gardner (whom he married later that year); European shot putt champion Arthur Rowe; Olympic bronze medallist Shirley Cawley (long jump) and John Disley (steeplechase); as well as Commonwealth champions Geoffrey Elliott (pole vault) and John Savidge (shot putt).

On his resignation as AAA chief national coach, Dyson went to work in Canada as an athletics training director, but later returned to this country as Director of Physical Education at Winchester College. His world wide coaching renown kept him in demand as a lecturer, although he kept out of the athletics limelight on his return. Many of today's senior coaches, in athletics and other sports, acknowledge him as their inspiration.

In 1962 he lectured at the International Olympic Academy in Greece, and as recently as July, 1979, returned to talk on the subject "Forty years on: some thoughts on coaching and development".

Dyson was appointed OBE last year.

His wife died in 1974 after a long illness, at the age of 45.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM SCOTTER

General Sir William Scotter, KCB, OBE, MC, who was Commander Northern Army Group and C-in-C British Army of the Rhine from 1978 to 1980, died yesterday at the age of 58. Last June he had been appointed to succeed General Sir Jack Harman as Deputy Supreme Allied Commander at SHAPE, from this April.

William Norman Ray Scotter was born on February 9, 1922, the son of the late C. N. Scotter of Carlisle, and was educated at St Bees School. He joined the Indian Army in 1942 and was commissioned in the 7th Gurkha Rifles, with which regiment he served in Burma where he was awarded the MC.

More fortunate than most of his contemporaries in the Indian Army who on Independence were posted to the Royal Artillery or Logistics Corps in the British Army, Scotter was posted to a regiment of his own Arm, the Border Regiment, in 1946. In 1948, however, he returned to the Gurkhas for a three years' attachment, serving in Malaya with the 1/2nd Gurkha Rifles from 1948-51.

After attending the Joint Services Staff College in 1959 he served for two years as an instructor at the Staff College at Camberley where he made his mark as a forthright and clear-thinking officer who was clearly destined to go far in the army. In 1965 he was appointed to command 1st Bn King's Own Royal Border Regiment, going on in 1967 to command an infantry brigade.

Promoted Major-General in 1970, Scotter was Chief of Staff to Field-Marshal Lord Carver when the latter was GOC-in-C Southern Command, and on the reorganization of the Army's Home Commands in 1972 Scotter became the first Chief of Staff at Headquarters United Kingdom Land Forces where he played an important part in making the reorganization a success.

He was Director of Military Operations from 1972-75, concerned principally with the problem of Northern Ireland, and the experience gained in that appointment, coupled with his already high reputation in Whitehall, ensured his selection in 1975 for the post of VCGS and promotion to Lieutenant-General. In 1978 he was appointed C-in-C in Germany in the rank of General.

Bill Scotter was a practical soldier of wide experience and no frills. He eschewed showmanship and flamboyance of any kind and was the more respected in the Army as a result. An enthusiastic "Keep Fit" supporter, he played most games and firmly believed that others should do the same; it was appropriate that in 1976 *he should have been appointed* Colonel Commandant of the Army Physical Training Corps, and in 1976 elected President of the Army Rugby Football Union. He was appointed Colonel of his Regiment in 1971.

Scotter had a keen mind and he had a very high sense of duty. He was a true professional but always remained modest. It was typical of him to list among his hobbies that of sawing logs.

He was made OBE in 1965 and KCB in 1975. He married Jean Striven in 1947 and they had one son and two daughters.

BRIGADIER A. A. CROOK

Mr Morris Benett writes:
Veterans of the 1st Army in the North African Campaign of 1942-43 will learn with regret of the death of Brigadier Arthur Ainslie Crook, DSO, at the age of 81.

Crook, born on October 2, 1899, at Sandhurst, where his father was Academy Sergeant-Major, was commissioned into the Artillery on September 20, 1918, and saw service briefly in France. He later transferred to The Northamptonshire Regiment and was given command of the 5th (Territorial) Battalion before that unit of 78th Division left Britain in October, 1942.

Crook's battalion was among the spearhead of the sparse force that came so close to capturing Tunis in December that year. He was a soldier's soldier and had the admiration of all who served under him.

After Tunis fell in May, 1943, he was posted to Burma where he commanded a brigade with great distinction.

He later served as an adviser to the Greek Army as military attaché in Bangkok; and in Cyprus. He was promoted brigadier in 1952 and retired the following year. Since December, 1963, he had been a Military Knight of Windsor.

He leaves a widow, a son and a daughter.

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, Feb 6, 1956

Malta, Feb 5.—The Archbishop of Malta has asked the Governor to ask Mr Mintoff, the Prime Minister, to postpone the referendum which is due to take place on Saturday and Sunday on the integration of Malta with the United Kingdom and in particular on the proposal that three Maltese members of Parliament should be sent to Westminster . . . Mgr Gonzi's reason is that he is not yet satisfied with the assurances and guarantees given to him and to the Vatican by the British *Government* and the parliamentary leaders of both sides at Westminster about the position and privileges that the Roman Catholic Church will enjoy in Malta if the integration proposals are carried out . . . the Archbishop's proposal brings into the open what has become increasingly evident during the past few days: that the church authorities are most concerned about how a Maltese Government under Mr Mintoff might affect the privileged position of the church in the island.

Today's engagements

Lectures: London's River: Blackwall frigates, Alan Perksall, Museum of London, London Wall, 1.10. Memories of 50 years in Eastcheap, Mr E. J. Sweeney, St Margaret Pattens, 1.10. The Sublime Imagination: Martin and Danby, Sarah Reid, Tate Gallery, 1. Psychical research, David Lowe, City Circle, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, 7.30.
Exhibition: Weaving, Peter Collingwood, Crafts Council Gallery, 12 Waterloo Place, Lower Regent Street, 10-5.30. Ruth Harris, weaving, British Crafts Centre, 43 Earlham Street, Covent Garden, 10 - 5.
Lunchtime music: Organ; St Paul's Cathedral, 12.30 - 1.00. Sopranos, Guildhall School of Music and Drama; 1.10.
Walks: The incredible world of Charles Dickens, meet outside Charing Cross Hotel, 10. 2,000 years of history — the famous square mile, meet St Paul's station, 11. The road to Tyburn, meet St Bartholomew's Hospital, Smithfield, 2.
Memorial Service: Mr Melville Gillam, St Paul's, Covent Garden, noon.

Science report

Zoology: Insects that use toxin to kill

By the Staff of *Nature*

An oak log and a stump of elderberry in Gates Canyon, Northern California, have revealed a relationship not seen before in the insect world. As a result of observations made on those pieces of wood, Dr J. B. Johnson and Dr K. S. Hagen, of the division of biological control of the University of California, Berkeley, have been able to demonstrate how an insect larva feeds on termites after killing them with a toxin. Although insects which share a termite nest are well known, as are those which produce defensive toxic substances, no others are known that use a toxin to kill prey.

The larva in question, *Lomamyia latipennis*, one of the Neuroptera, and some of its close relatives had already been suspected of having a relationship with some kind of prey, living in the confined habitat of an ant nest or termite gallery, but it was the log and the stump that enabled Dr Johnson and Dr Hagen finally to identify the prey. In June, 1979, they found a cluster of the appropriate eggs on the oak log, which was infested with the termite *Reticulitermes hesperus*. When they chopped it open, the log contained a well fed larva. Then, in June, 1980, an adult *L. latipennis* emerged from the elderberry stump, which had been taken into their laboratory a month previously as a source of *R. hesperus*. They found no evidence of *L. latipennis* anywhere near colonies of the two other species of termites known in northern California.

Dr Johnson and Dr Hagen then examined the relationship more closely. They collected some adult females, which deposited their eggs in the laboratory. When the eggs had hatched, the larvae were kept individually in glass phials and fed with one of the three species of north Californian termite. Only larvae given *R. hesperus* developed successfully.

That confirmed the relationship, which could be observed in more natural surroundings in colonies of *R hesperus* set up in the laboratory. Larvae of *L. latipennis* behaved much like other insects which share a termite colony, *moving freely among the termites* in their galleries. The unique behaviour began when the larvae were ready to feed. A larva then approached a worker, soldier or reproductive termite and waved the tip of its abdomen past the termite's face. After one to three minutes the termite was incapacitated. A few minutes later it stopped moving and the larva started to eat.

To verify that no contact was necessary between the attacking larva and the termite, Dr Johnson and Dr Hagen prepared a glass phial divided down the middle by filter paper. In one compartment they put a larva and a termite and in the other they put a termite alone. In 10 tests the lone termite was invariably incapacitated within a few minutes of the attack by the larva in the other compartment. A second, similar experiment gave equivalent results, showing that the larva produced its toxin in the form of a gas or aerosol.

In that respect it resembles the many other insects that produce volatile substances for defence or sexual attraction. Dr Johnson and Dr Hagen believe it is likely that the toxin of *L. latipennis* has evolved from a defensive substance which was necessary for protection in the early stages of its relationship with *R hesperus*.

Source: *Nature*, February 5 (vol 289, p 506) 1981.
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THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

Oil traders move into the City, page 19

■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 472.0 down 6.9
FT Gilts 69.33 down 0.14

■ **Sterling**
$2.3405 down 170 points
Index 104.1 unchanged

■ **Dollar**
Index 98.9 up 0.3
DM 2.1480 up 258 pts

■ **Gold**
$491.50 down $14

■ **Money**
3 month sterling 13¼-13⅛
3 month Euro $ 17⅞-17¾
6 month Euro $ 16¾-16½

IN BRIEF

Metro takes 8pc of January car sales

BL sold about 24,500 cars in the United Kingdom last month to capture almost 18 per cent of the market. The state-owned group's performance, which compares with a market share of 15 per cent in the same month last year, has been boosted by the continued success of the Metro, which took eight per cent of sales.

Industry figures due to be published in the next few days will show that January sales were 136,000 compared with 159,108 a year earlier. Current forecasts are that the total 1981 new car market will decline by six per cent to 1,420,000.

Fears that pent up demand for Japanese cars would result in a 20 per cent market penetration in January after the brake on sales at the end of last year have proved unfounded. Japanese cars took about 12 per cent of sales, a level that the British industry will expect to fall to around nine per cent for the whole year.

Ford held its position at the top of the car sales league with a market share of about 32 per cent, down from 34.7 per cent in December. Total imports rose from a share of 44 per cent in December to 53 per cent.

Italian steel notices

Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, predicted an oil glut in 1982, with prices "floating at a lower level". *He added* that the surplus would be very sizable if Iran and Iraq ended hostilities.

Saudi promise, page 18

Coordination plea

Viscount Etienne Davignon, the EEC Industry Commissioner, has called for coordinated policies to help the Community catch up with Japan in technological development. The only alternative would be more protectionism, he added.

Oil glut prediction

The EEC has given the Italian Government 10 days to ensure import access to Community steel. Failure to comply would lead to Italy being brought before the European Court of Justice.

Strike rejected

Workers at Smiths Industries have rejected a move by union leaders to strike as a result of *the company's plans for 270* redundancies at Witney, Oxford.

Banking talks

The Federation of London Clearing Bank Employers has opened negotiations with the two unions in the industry on its plans for new negotiating and disputes procedures.

Chrysler compromise

Top officials of Chrysler Canada have been asked to meet Mr Herb Gray, Industries Minister, in an effort to reach a final compromise on the original accord between the two sides.

Wall Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 4.78 points up to 946.76. The $-SDR was 1.24405. The £ was 0.527811.

EEC steelmakers negotiate voluntary output restraints

From Peter Norman
Brussels, Feb 5

Dr Dieter Spethmann, the managing board chairman of Thyssen, West Germany's largest steel group, has disclosed that the steelmakers of the 10 EEC member states are *holding "intensive negotiations"* on a new voluntary agreement to replace the European Commission's present system of mandatory production quotas.

He told a press conference in *Düsseldorf* that *his* company was a determined supporter of a return to the voluntary system of production restraint.

But in a significant softening of the hostile attitude adopted by West German industry towards the Commission *regime, Dr Spethmann said that* on the grounds of "political commonsense", the present EEC system should only end as planned on June 30 if there was a voluntary agreement ready to replace it.

Thyssen is the first West German group to hold a big press conference since the introduction of the steel quota mechanism towards the end of last year, and Dr Spethmann's remarks carry extra weight because he is the leading figure in the German Iron and Steel Industry Association.

Mandatory production quotas under Article 58 of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty have enabled the Thyssen group to raise its prices.

Dr Spethmann disclosed that contracts signed in the present quarter reflected an average increase in prices of 30 Deutsche marks (about £6) a tonne since the last quarter of 1980, when the present phase of the steel crisis was at its worst. Further price increases averaging around DM30 per tonne are expected on April 1.

But even after these increases, steel prices in the EEC were well below the domestic prices charged on the United States and Japanese markets, he said.

Peter Hill writes: British Steel Corporation and the private sector steelmakers have doubts on thhe ability of the European industry to raech a basis for a comprehensive voluntary regime of controls.

The present target date is April 30 for reaching agreement but within the United Kingdom industry steelmen believe that the most likely outcome is an extension of the existing meosures.

Financial Editor, page 19

NatWest considers BPC rescue deal

By Richard Allen

National Westminster, banker of BPC the beleaguered printing and publishing group, confirmed last night that it was considering rescue proposals involving Mr Robert Maxwell, head of Pergamon Press.

In a brief statement it said: "The bank is undertaking a review of the company's financial position with the assistance of Coopers & Lybrand, the company's auditors.

"This review will include consideration of proposals which have this week been presented jointly by the company and by Pergamon to the bank."

The bank added that a further statement would be made shortly and that in the meantime "the bank is continuing its support on the existing basis".

The Pergamon group is proposing to inject as much as £10m in return for a controlling stake in BPC. But the deal is understood to be dependent on *NatWest* agreeing to forgo certain rights on a substantial part of loans to the group of more than £25m.

Other options being offered to NatWest under the rescue package drawn up by Henry Ansbacher, the merchant bank, and Pergamon's advisers, include write-offs or conversion of debts into equity.

The controversial package will also require support from BPC's shareholders and holders of about £8m of loan stock who will be asked to convert into ordinary shares.

Directors of the troubled group met secretly yesterday and executives were unavailable for comment last night.

BPC, hit by labour troubles and general recession, first sounded the alarm about its financial difficulties when it disclosed a £6.5m interim loss last year. Its total debts at the end of last year were more than £40m.

Mr Maxwell built up a 29.5 per cent stake in the group *with the help of a "dawn raid"* on the stock market last July. The board complained about Mr Maxwell's purchase to the Office of Fair Trading but a monopolies commission reference was abandoned.

Although initially the BPC board sought alternative solutions to the group's problems, it became clear two weeks ago that it had reached a truce with Mr Maxwell, and joint discussions began.

Last week Hambros, BPC's advisers for the previous four months, departed to be replaced by Hill Samuel.

Talks fail to resolve Duport steel crisis

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

The crisis at Duport, the Midlands steel and engineering group, remained unresolved last night after a day of talks between senior executives of the company, the British Steel Corporation, and Midland Bank, Duport's bankers.

Speculation over the group's future continued and in the absence of an expected statement from Mr Eric Sayers, the Duport chairman, shares in the company fell back to 7p, their lowest level.

The company said that discussions with the steel corporation and the Department of Industry were continuing and that a statement would be issued "at the appropriate time".

The renewed talks with the corporation followed a meeting earlier this week between Mr Sayers and Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, over the difficulties faced by the group. It recorded a loss of £4.5m in the first half of last year which has risen in the second half because of the slide in demand for steel.

Duport is among a group of companies engaged in the production of engineering steels which have been involved in government-promoted discussions on the rationalization of the sector. The aim is to reduce the high level of overcapacity through a joint venture with the steel corporation which is a leading supplier of products for the same markets.

2,000 jobs go in vehicle industry

By Our Industrial Staff

In a restructuring operation which is a direct reaction to dwindling markets and increased competition from imports, Seddon Atkinson, the heavy truck manufacturer owned by International Harvester of America is to cut its labour force in Britain by nearly 45 per cent.

It means the loss of 810 jobs, all of them in the north west, a region that has already suffered the loss of more than 100,000 jobs in the past year.

The company says one factor in their decision is the Government's *proposal to* reduce the temporary employment premium next month.

Seddon Atkinson plans to close its assembly plant at Walton-le-Dale near Preston with the loss of 427 jobs and to concentrate production on its headquarters plant at Oldham, Lancashire.

However, another 260 jobs will go at Oldham and 73 more will be lost at the parts distribution centre at Bamber Bridge, also near Preston.

Mr Bob Johnson, managing *director, said* the company made a significant loss in the six months up to October last year and trading losses had continued during November and December.

GKN Sankey, a leading supplier of truck wheels, chassis and cabs, said yesterday that 1,241 employees, including 330 staff, would lose their jobs at Telford, Shropshire, and Bilston West Midlands. This is the third cut back by the company in four months. In October, 6,444 jobs went followed by 130 in November.

Linwood fears: MPs concerned about the future of French-owned Talbot UK now fear the company may close its Linwood assembly plant in Scotland after the announcement from Nissan of Japan that it wants to build a big car factory in the United Kingdom, Edward Townsend writes.

Peugeot, Talbot's owner, has made no public comment on the prospects for the Linwood *operation*, which employs 4,800 workers, but opinion in Whitehall is that closure is a strong *possibility*.

It is believed that competition from Nissan, which plans to build 200,000 cars a year in the United Kingdom by 1986, will force Peugeot to abandon much of the United Kingdom activity and concentrate on producing new models at its French factories where there is considerable under-used capacity.

Mr Leslie Huckfield, an Opposition spokesman on industry and one of eight MPs who had talks with ministers *yesterday said*: "We *learned* nothing new but from the way in which ministers were saying that both Peugeot and Nissan would to some extent have to take each others plans for the future into account, I am still very gloomy about the ultimate outcome for Talbot UK."

Yesterday's talks were attended by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, Mr Norman Tebbit, the Industry Ministers, and Mr George Younger, the Scottish Secretary, a turnout which indicates the serious view being taken by the Government. Sir Keith is to meet the Peugeoat management to discuss the future of Talbot in Britain.

Should the Linwood plant be closed, the Government will have to decide whether to claim immediate repayment of a £28m loan made by the last administration as part of the 1976 Chrysler rescue and due to be repaid between 1985 and 1990.

United States import fears: The *American* car *industry's* sales are sharply down and this is increasing pressures on the *Reagan Administration to take* action to restrict Japanese car imports, Frank Vogl writes. New car sales by Detroit companies in the final 10 days of January were 26 per cent below the comparable 1980 level.

Ford expansion: The Ford Motor Company is to spend billions of francs over the next few years to modernize its assembly plant at Genk, Belgium.

It said the Genk facility would be producing the new *Toni* model. In a statement, Ford vigorously denied as "absurd" a suggestion in a Belgian newspaper that it might not invest the money if a Japanese producer is allowed to buy the British Leyland plant at Seneffe, which is closing the a loss of 2,200 jobs.

European concern, page 18

Grants plan to avert miners' clash

By Nicholas Hirst
Energy Correspondent

Energy ministers plan to head off a confrontation with the miners over pit closures by increasing the amount of social grants payable to the National Coal Board *to ease redundancy costs*.

But the plan, which would involve raising government aid to the coal industry, has yet to be sanctioned by the Treasury and agreed by the Cabinet.

The National Coal Board, hard hit by the recession and keen international pricing competition is to outline plans to cut its costs to leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers on Tuesday.

Under a stringent financial strategy introduced by the Conservative Administration in the Coal Act, passed last year, the coal board must break even, excluding grants made for social reasons, by 1983-84.

Coal board leaders are believed to think that the only way this can be done is to accelerate the closure of uneconomic pits. Just under a tenth of coal output is thought to be from pits losing a total of £100m a year.

Tuesday's *announcement* is expected to put stark options before the miners, who will either have to agree to more pit closures and increased redundancies or face a sharp curback in the investment programme of £600m a year, originally outlined in the Plan for Coal of 1974.

Miners' leaders believe the board is considering closing 25 pits. Next Tuesday's message, however, is unlikely to include either the number or the locations of mines which may be closed.

The union and the NCB have a joint review procedure for pit closures and the board is certain to want to continue with this procedure to maintain goodwill.

But unless the board is given additional help, it could not afford to make the redundancy payments on an accelerated pit closure programme and leave its investment intact without breaking its external financing limits and missing the targets of the Coal Act.

The Department of Energy, is keen that the board should proceed as was originally *planned in 1974 with new investment which* will sharply lower production costs, enabling it either to sell profitably abroad or fight off imports now running at seven million tonnes a year.

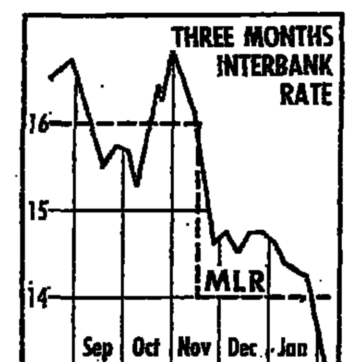
Social grants are payable under the Coal Act to ease the board's redundancy commitments and payments to miners to alleviate the cost of transferring from one area to another. In many instances they do not cover the full cost of any payments and a substantial restructuring of the grants would need new legislation. Department of Energy officials do not believe that a Bill would need to be presented immediately.

Some coal board officials believe that the recession has made the strategy in the Coal Act so unworkable that it ought to be scrapped. The energy department, however, is determined to persevere with it. Ministers do not accept that the recession is the only reason the board has run into a cash crisis, and that the board is only now facing the decisions it should have taken some time ago.

Rather than keep uneconomic pits going by covering the deficit that would be bound to continue, energy ministers would prefer to alleviate the cost of increased redundancy on favourable terms. Neither the board's plan nor the Government's help will be sold easily to the miners.

Yorkshire miners have already voted to give their leaders permission to call industrial action to fight pit closures for any reason other than an exhaustion of coal seams and with unemployment continuing to rise, an attack on miners' jobs is bound to raise a political squabble.

Sterling firm as MLR is left unchanged



By Our Economics Staff

The Government's decision to leave the Bank of England's minimum lending rate unchanged yesterday left sterling little changed against most currencies, although it fell back against a strengthening dollar during the afternoon.

Government stocks and shares both lost part of the ground gained earlier in the week. *Gilts closed with falls of as* much as 25p among longer dated stocks, while the *Financial Times* 30-share index finished 6.9 points down at 472.0.

Market opinion on when MLR will now come down remains divided. Some City analysts are convinced that the Government has already made up its mind to keep any reduction for Budget day on March 10 or soon after.

But with money market rates becoming only slightly firmer after yesterday's decision, there is still plenty of room for an MLR cut of at least one percentage point in terms of the traditional structure of relative short-term interest rates. There is certainly a growing case for the banks to consider a reduction in their base rates.

The fact that MLR did not move yesterday inevitably sparked some speculation that the January banking figures, to be published next Tuesday, may give a less encouraging view of monetary growth in January than many analysts have been predicting.

On active foreign exchange markets the MLR decision was widely discounted in advance. The announcement gave the pound a brief fillip but it drifted downwards during the afternoon as the dollar made headway against most leading currencies.

A report from the Reuter news agency that the Prime Minister was considering ways of bringing the exchange rate down may have contributed to the pound's decline against the dollar.

At the end of trading it was down 1.70 cents at $2.3405, but its effective exchange rate against a basket of currencies was unchanged on Wednesday's close, reflecting gains on continental currencies. Against the Deutschemark, sterling gained 3.50 pfennigs to finish at DM 5.0250.

The dollar, which rose steadily over the day, was helped by news of fresh industrial trouble in Poland and by the decision of the German Federal Bank to leave interest rates unchanged, both factors depressing the mark along with publication of Germany's 1980 balance of payments deficit.

The dollar gained further impetus in the afternoon after a warning by Mr Paul Volcker, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, that interest rates could rise while tax and government spending cuts are being implemented. He said that the Fed would be looking for progressive reductions in money supply growth.

PO aims for monopoly on electronic mail

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

The Post Office is aiming to extend its letter monopoly to cover electronic mail. Mr Ron Dearing, chairman of the Post Office, said yesterday that he would press for changes in legislation at committee stage in Parliament to give the postal service the same exclusive privileges to handle "hard copy" transmitted electronically as it already has for ordinary letters.

Mr Dearing was inaugurating an extension of the prestige Intelpost electronic mail service, where facsimiles of documents can be transmitted between post offices in 18 towns within the United Kingdom as well as to Canada, Holland and the United States.

A critical element in growth is the speedy introduction of a much larger network, which would enable the Post Office to sort and convey electronically such items as invoices and advertising material between centres using hand deliveries only for the final few miles.

The Post Office is expected to argue that an extension of the monopoly could not only speed up the introduction of Intelpost but also safeguard the long-term future of the postal service.

It will point out that the Telecommunications Bill gives the Secretary of State for Industry wide powers to withdraw the monopoly if standards fall below acceptable levels.

Mr Dearing said yesterday he was disappointed that he had not yet convinced the Government.

The Bill at present permits the Post Office to offer an electronic mail service but specifically excludes it from the *monopoly. Clause 63 (5) of the* Bill, which defines a letter, explicitly excludes communications which have been "transmitted by means of a telecommunication system".

When the Post Office launched the first Intelpost link between London and Toronto last June it pioneered the first international electronic mail service available to the public.

However, there are many privately owned facsimile networks operated by companies and these are expected to grow significantly with the introduction of cheaper, quicker and more reliable new equipment.

Despite intensive marketing, including advertisements on local commercial radio, it is understood that little use has been made of the public service so far.

The Post Office would not give volume figures because it said these would take at least a year to establish.

The Post Office is meanwhile looking to business within the United Kingdom where links have been established between London, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Leicester, Nottingham, Leeds, Newcastle, Slough, Sheffield, Belfast, Liverpool, Manchester, Preston, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Southampton and Cardiff.

Aerospace share fears allayed

By Ronald Pullen

British Aerospace sought to allay fears yesterday that a future Labour Government would renationalize the company, after the news that the Government is to sell up to 50 per cent of the shares, worth £150m, to the public.

Sir Austin Pearce, the chairman, argued that a Labour Cabinet would have more important matters on its mind and that such a move would have an "adverse effect on pension funds and the like".

He added that he had found no serious opposition to the part denationalization among the company's 79,000 employees. Sir Austin hoped that the group's relationship with the Government would develop along the same lines as BP's.

Small investors will also be favoured if there is an oversubscription for the 100 million shares on offer when applications close next Friday. The sale prospectus shows that investors can apply for as little as 50 shares worth £75 at the *150p subscription price.*

The more widely spread the shares, the more difficult it would be for any future Government to take the company back fully into the public sector.

Sir Austin stressed yesterday that Aerospace, even without Government subsidies, had a good profits record and a strong future.

Mr Bernard Friend, the finance director, thought that despite the group's substantial need for funds to finance its programme over the next few years, there were sufficient working capital requirements for at least the next four years with £400m of borrowings arranged through the company's nine banks.

Sir Austin welcomed the Government's decision to float off shares but said that the previous Labour government had done the industry "a good turn" in putting the country's aerospace interests together.

The Department of Industry confirmed that the costs of the launch, including the City's underwriting, amounted to between £4m and £5m.

Meanwhile, investors keen to *apply for shares will be able to* cover their positions by writing traded options for cash when dealings start in the next fortnight. The Stock Exchange options committee is understood to be rushing through details allowing the shares to be dealt on the traded options market.

Unpublished details: The prospectus contains many hitherto unpublished details of both civil and military projects (Arthur Reed writes). It indicates that the launching costs of the company's 146 airlines project will be between £300m and £350m, of which about 80 per cent will have been borne by 1984. BA had expended about £105m launching costs by December 31, 1980.

The total market for this type of aircraft (between 70-100 seats) was estimated at 1,200 between 1980 and 1985, and the group believed that the 146 had "a reasonable prospect" of achieving at least 30 per cent of that market.

Lonrho profits jump to record £119m

By Our Financial Staff

Lonrho, the international trading group which has launched a £158m cash bid for the House of Fraser, yesterday unveiled full-year pretax profits up 52 per cent to a record level of £119.1m.

This outcome compared with some stock market forecasts of as much as £135m, but the group's shares gained ground, closing 1p higher at 105p, after Lonrho announced a surprise increase in the final dividend, lifting total payments for the year by 36.6 per cent to 14.3p gross.

The results come exactly a month before Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland's fast-moving group meets its shareholders seeking approval for its 150p a share bid for House of Fraser.

Announcing the figures yesterday, Mr Rowland declared that the trading improvement was the result of the performance of the group's interests in mining, agriculture and hotels. "These three areas of business alone did well enough to overcome the effects of the general recession", he said.

Mr Rowland added that Lonrho's balance sheet, due to be posted to shareholders next week, had also been considerably strengthened during the year. Assets employed have risen to £850m and cash balances totalled £108m at the year-end.

Operating profits from the group's mining operations rose from £26m to £63m boosted by higher production and the higher gold price, while agricultural profits rose to £13m helped by increased output and a boom in the sugar price towards the end of the year.

In the United Kingdom, the group said that despite the fact that its Hadfields steelmaking subsidiary had "suffered substantially", engineering and steel processing companies still contributed something to profits.

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PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Aquascutum 'A'	3½p to 31p	Lesney	3p to 17p
ERF	5p to 52p	ML Holdings	5p to 255p
Farnell Elec	5p to 354p	Redfearn Nat	5p to 158p
IDC Group	7p to 63p	Travis & Arnold	11p to 128p
Lee Cooper	15p to 166p	Unitech	7p to 223p

Falls

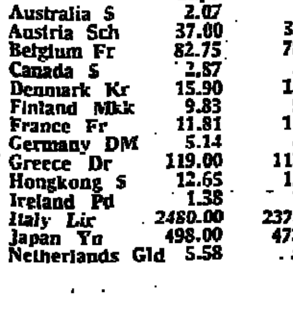
Bridon	6p to 45p	GEC	13p to 618p
Brockhouse	4½p to 30½p	Gt Univ Stores	13p to 493p
Diploma	7p to 153p	Lasmo	15p to 659p
Duport	2p to 7p	Mercantile Hse	10p to 620p
Ferranti	10p to 490p	Wholesale Fits	15p to 220p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.07	1.99
Austria Sch	37.00	34.80
Belgium Fr	82.75	78.75
Canada $	2.87	2.78
Denmark Kr	15.90	15.10
Finland Mkk	9.83	9.33
France Fr	11.81	11.31
Germany DM	5.14	4.90
Greece Dr	119.00	113.00
Hongkong $	12.65	12.05
Ireland Pd	1.38	1.32
Italy Lir	2480.00	2370.00
Japan Yn	498.00	472.00
Netherlands Gld	5.58	5.32

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Norway Kr	13.05	12.40
Portugal Esc	133.50	127.00
South Africa Rd	2.20	2.05
Spain Pta	201.25	192.25
Sweden Kr	11.09	10.54
Switzerland Fr	4.68	4.45
USA $	2.39	2.32
Yugoslavia Dnr	88.50	83.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.



New techniques mean coatings for everything from poultry to cakes

An up-market image for the stale old crumb

A new way of treating breadcrumbs should mean that consumers will not only get crumbs with almost everything but give the crumb market, dull for two years or more, a big opportunity for expansion.

The commercial crumb market, negligible until the *advent of fish fingers 25 years* ago when most housewives made their own from stale bread, is now running at around 20,000 tonnes a year with T. Lucas, part of Dalgety Spillers, the market leader with a claimed 50 per cent market share. RHM is the other key crumb supplier.

Lucas claims a pioneer move in crumb making with a range of novel coatings called the "creative crumb".

The new-style crumbs, from a gourmet Japanese crumb to potato crunch and a homebaked crusty version of the traditional crumb, are expected by Lucas to be taking about a quarter of an expanded market within three years.

Development work has already been started, with the *possibility of use* not only on fish, seafood, poultry and meat, but on—or in—cakes, desserts and confectionery.

Lucas's cookery experts have been trying to tempt the trade with ideas that run through a full menu from starters with crusty crumbs to petit fours with the exotic dash of the Orient.

Traditionally, breadcrumbs were produced by drying and then grinding stale bread, but there were contamination problems. Crumb coatings subsequently were produced in an automated 10-stage process.

The most up-market crumb of all, the Japanese, is produced by a 12 stage process demanded largely by much greater expansion of its dough.

Lucas's breakthrough has been *achieved by a six-stage* process involving extrusion which replaces elaborate breadmaking procedures. That means greater raw material flexibility, a wider range of crumbs to attract consumers and a greater handling characteristics that give food manufacturers more flexibility.

The new system uses less labour and energy than the intricate Japanese crumb process used in the United States and brings the cost of novelty crumbs nearer to that of the normal crumb, Lucas claim.

Crumbs can now be produced not only from wheatflour and potato flour but also other cereals including maize. Rice has been a problem in the past because of its sticky qualities, but Lucas believe that can be *overcome in the new process.*

Even tomato could be used in making crumbs in the battle to get consumers to bite more into the novelty-coated foods. Then the British consumer, at the moment eating about three-quarters of a pound of crumb coatings a year, might start to approach the United States average of three and a half pounds a year.

Derek Harris

£30m South Wales electronics plant will provide 1,000 jobs

Mitel Telecom, the Canadian electronics group, is to build a production plant in South Wales, in an area hit by the steel industry decline.

The company which specializes in electronic telephone and communications equipment is believed to be investing about £30m and plans to employ about 1,000 workers by the end of next year at Caldicot, Gwent, with the promise of more jobs in the future.

The decision, which was made at a board meeting in Ottawa, was welcomed by Mr Nicholas Edwards, the Secretary of State for Wales, and is seen as a big boost for new high technology industry in Wales.

The Mitel plant will be close to the government-backed Inmos microprocessor project at Newport which wil provide 1,000 jobs by 1983 at its first British manufacturing base.

Several weeks of talks have taken place with the Welsh Office and the Gwent County Council to discuss financial incentives in setting up on an 18-acre site.

Mr Edwards said the project had "enormous importance and would make a substantial contribution to offsetting employment problems caused by the rundown of British Steel's nearby Llanwern plant.



Saudis will maintain level of oil production

Saudi Arabia is to maintain its present level of oil production at 10.3 million barrels a day at least until the end of February Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the oil minister, said.

It was also the government's intention to try to keep prices at their present level of $32 a barrel for benchmark crude until May.

The world market seemed to be soft, partly because the fighting between Iran and Iraq was limited enough to allow both sides to keep producing small amounts.

He refused to say if Saudi Arabia would maintain output into the spring or summer. His country reviewed that decision each month.

Nigeria eases curbs on foreign participation

Nigeria has eased restrictions on foreign participation in several industries to encourage more foreign investment. Foreigners will be allowed to have a 60 per cent participation, against the previous 40 per cent, in the production of metal containers, fertilizers and cement, in sugar plantations and processing, and agricultural plantations for cash crops.

Turkey devaluation

Turkey has devalued the lira by 4.2 per cent against the dollar and 2.5 per cent against sterling. The new exchange rates were 95.95 to the dollar compared with 91.90 and 225.10 against sterling, compared with 219.57. It also devalued against the Deutsche mark, Belgian franc, Danish krone and the French franc.

Eurocredit for Spain

Spain's Sociedad Espanola de Automobiles de Turismo, the country's largest car manufacturer, has signed an agreement for a $175m (£75m) Euroloan with 33 banks. The credit will be for eight years and will bear an interest rate of ⅝ point above the United States prime rate.

Canal for Panama

Mr Shigeo Nagano, President of the Japan and Tokyo Chambers of Commerce, says he hopes President Reagan will take the first steps soon toward a joint United States-Japan project to build a sea-level canal in Panama.

Higher car output

Mitsubishi has decided to increase production of small cars and trucks to 9,000 vehicles a month, starting in March, because Chrysler has asked for more models to meet American dealer demand.

Chinese engineers

One hundred and fifty Chinese engineers being trained in Japan, have been ordered home to build and operate an 85,000m yen (£179m) steel rolling mill in Baoshan near Shanghai.

More German steel

West German January raw steel production rose 15.4 per cent from December to 3.18 million tonnes but declined 12.7 per cent from January, 1979.

Hydro plant loan

Italy's state electric utility, Ente Nazionale per L'Energia Elettrica, has received an additional $40m (£17m) credit from the European Investment Bank to build a hydro-electric plant at Edolo, northern Italy.

JAL Swiss bond

Japan Airlines plans private placement of a 50m Swiss franc (£11.23m) government-guaranteed bond with a Swiss banking syndicate led by Union Bank of Switzerland.

Chrysler lay-offs

Chrysler Canada will lay off about 3,500 car assembly plant workers for two weeks beginning next week and will lay off 230 others indefinitely.

Rouble revalued

The Soviet state bank's rouble exchange rate against the dollar will be changed from Monday to 70.35 roubles to $100 from 69 roubles.

Daimler-Benz sales

Daimler-Benz, the German car company, saw domestic sales rise 2.9 per cent to 241,000 units in 1980 while foreign sales climbed 2.7 per cent to 188,000.

£248m Indian loans

The Indian Government floated two loans totalling Rs4,800m (£251m), completing net market borrowing of Rs25,000m for the financial year to the end of March.

Shell Canada budget

Shell Canada expects its capital expenditure programme this year to total Can$770m (£275m), up from Can$518m last year.

Spanish pay strikes

Strikes over wage demands hit Spain's steel and transport industries, halting train and airline service.

Uruguay trade gap

Uruguay had a trade deficit of £234,549m in the first 11 months of last year.

Computer group aims for 1,000 private systems within two years

ICL launches its own viewdata system

ICL, which this week reported a £20m loss in the first quarter, has launched a £1.5m viewdata system called Bulletin which it hopes will bring the company to the fore in information technology.

The viewdata market in the United Kingdom has been tailored largely by British Telecom whose Prestel system was launched in September 1979.

The response to the service has been disappointing, with only 7,500 specially adapted sets sold out of annual sales of 1.9 million colour sets.

But many users of Prestel's business and financial data are companies.

ICL and a number of other international companies are therefore interested in developing systems that can be used in conjunction with an internal computer system.

These systems will be the forerunners of a more advanced service that will allow an executive isolated in his country retreat to gain access to his own company files via the telephone and his television.

Virtually no training is required for the most inexperienced user to call up easily readable files and tables.

The Prestel system allows the subscriber to dial into one of the 19 computers in the country which can provide a total of 74,000 "pages" of information supplied by about 140 sources. These "sublet" their pages to other suppliers, bringing the total to nearer 400.

The ICL system will provide the same type of facility but it will be strictly for company use and the company is confident it can tap a sizable market with about 1,000 Bulletin systems in operation around the world by the end of 1983.

Within the next few years electronic equipment manufacturers, computer companies and information providers will all be expanding to try to achieve a share of the information technology industry.

The Government's recent appointment of Mr Kenneth Baker as Minister of Information Technology reflects the official Whitehall view of the importance of its development.

Even industries such as newspapers are using their resources to set up databanks whose information is available through the Prestel system. The *Financial Times*, Extel, the Birmingham Post and Mail and Eastern Counties Newspapers are examples.

But private viewdata systems such as that now being launched by ICL will bring office computer facilities directly into the home for the cost of a telephone call.

At present 60 per cent of telephone subscribers are able to gain access to the Prestel information stored in the 19 local computers in the United Kingdom.

Later this year Prestel will be launching its "gateway" which will allow the user to dial into a private system through the public network.

This development will revolutionize viewdata and launch an industry devoted to the collating, retrieval and distribution of information.

Bill Johnstone

UK curbs on counterfeit merchandise

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Industrial counterfeiting is causing British companies significant losses in export markets, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade, said yesterday.

The Department of Trade is so concerned about the problem —described by Mr Parkinson as "the theft of technology that negates commercial incentive to innovate"—that a number of initiatives are being made to counter it. Counterfeiting could be costing British industry at least £200m a year, it has been estimated.

The greatest concern is over counterfeit motor parts and more recently drugs, because of the dangers in using inferior products. Brake linings have been among a number of car parts in which the quality has often been inferior to the genuine product and could cause failures leading to accidents.

Although counterfeited goods, largely sourced from south east Asia but also coming in from east European countries, have mainly been finding their way into British export markets, especially third world countries, there are fears that some could also be coming into the United Kingdom itself.

Mr Parkinson, who was speaking at a management symposium in Switzerland, said that the counterfeit goods were being promoted unscrupulously, with even the packaging an exact copy of the real thing. Counterfeiting harmed trading relationships and was a confidence trick on the consumer that had to stop, he added.

EEC to scrutinize Tokyo exports

From Peter Norman
Brussels, Feb 5

The European Commission is planning to scrutinize the deliveries of Japanese cars, colour televisions and numerically controlled machine tools into the Community to determine the pattern of imports month by month.

This follows last month's round of high level discussions on trade between Commission officials and the Japanese in Tokyo, and reflects dissatisfaction in Brussels at the limited progress achieved.

A report to be submitted by the Commission to the Council of Ministers has established that a wide gap exists between what the EEC would like to happen to reduce Japan's trade surplus with the Community and what the Japanese are willing to offer to bring about an improvement.

The Commission says that the Japanese are not prepared to cut back their exports to the EEC to the extent desired by their governments, while the recent talks produced nothing to suggest that member states will gain easier access to the Japanese market.

The Commission believes that the Community should continue to press its views on the Japanese Government and pursue discussions on problems in specific sectors.

It plans to report to the Council of Ministers on its monitoring of imports of Japanese cars, televisions and machine tools as soon as the figures for the first half are available.

French blockade of car imports angers Japan

Tokyo, Feb 5. — Japan is considering a protest to France for holding up thousands of Japanese cars in ports and blocking sales, apparently to express its displeasure over surging vehicle imports.

Mr Toshihiki Yano, vice minister of International Trade and Industry, said the French action constituted a non-tariff barrier and violated the principles of free trade under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

Thousands of cars shipped by Japan have been held up in Le Havre and Marseilles for failing to obtain sales approval from the French Government.

Japanese reports said the French Government was believed to be intentionally withholding sales approval. The French Government was reported to have told domestic importers to hold down the market share of Japanese cars below 3 per cent and not to prepare advertisements for Japanese cars.

Several western governments seem to be moving towards trade curbs against Japanese cars.

This is despite their free trade philosophy and the possibility that any major curbs on car imports could result in a trade war which could worsen the world recession.

Tate workers call off strike threat

By R. W. Shakespeare

Workers at the Tate & Lyle sugar refinery in Liverpool, which is under threat of closure with the loss of 1,600 jobs, have agreed to suspend their planned campaign of industrial action while efforts continue to try to save their jobs.

However, they are pressing ahead with proposals to build up "a fighting fund", to which they will each be contributing £1 a week, to oppose the closure, due on April 22.

After a series of meetings Tate & Lyle has agreed to continue to take in supplies of raw sugar to the plant until April 3.

Mr John McLean, secretary of the joint union works action committee, says it was this move that prompted workers to call off their plans for immediate industrial action. Had the company not acted to keep supplies flowing, the refinery would have closed within a fortnight as raw sugar stocks ran out.

Mr Tony Humphreys, regional officer for the General and Municipal Workers' Union, said: "At least we now have a little more time. I would have been happier if the company had withdrawn redundancy notices. That would have shown a real desire to keep the refinery open."

The closure was announced a fortnight ago. Opposition is centring on political moves aimed at pressing for changes in EEC policy which gives preferential treatment to home-grown sugar beet.

More than 130 MPs have signed a Commons motion attacking the Government for failing to support the British cane sugar refining industry.

Rise of 5 pc for knitting workers

By John Huxley

More than 60,000 knitting workers have settled for a 5 per cent wage increase this year. Industry leaders say the figure reflects "the most acute trading difficulties since the 1930s".

In the past 15 months the industry, located mainly in the East Midlands, has shed about 16,000 jobs, or about 15 per cent of its total workforce. More than 50 factories closed and short-time working is still widespread.

An agreement reached within the National Joint Industrial Council for the Hosiery Trade also allows for an extra day's paid holiday, an improvement in fallback rates for the guaranteed working week, and increases in the unsocial hours and overtime premia.

Mr Harold Gibson, general president of the National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers, said yesterday: "The agreement was the best that could be reached in the circumstances."

Mr John Harrison, director of the Knitting Industries' Federation, said it was hoped the agreed package would help to alleviate widespread short-time working and preserve jobs in the industry to take advantage of the upturn in trade when it occurred.

He added that employers faced reduced demand and customer resistance to any attempt to pass on additional costs of production.

Industry leaders blame their present difficulties on "continuing over-exposure to low-cost imports" and the relative strength of the pound, which has limited opportunities for manufacturers to seek compensation elsewhere.

The federation has lent its voice to the campaign being waged by the clothing and textiles industry to have a much-strengthened successor to the present Multi Fibre Arrangement, the machinery through which international trade in textiles and clothing is regulated. It expires at the end of this year.

Like other sectors of the industry, the knitters have found themselves being challenged by rising import penetration.

Although the main threat has come from the European Community's Mediterranean associates, and the Lomé countries, and other developing country producers, the knitting industry has also faced strong competition in the United Kingdom from United States producers.

Last autumn, Mr Harrison said that imports of American knitted underwear, other clothing and fabrics, were increasing at an alarming rate. They were entering Britain at prices below those of goods from the Third World, the traditional low-cost source.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Increases in overseas mail rates

From the Director, International Post Affairs, the Post Office

Sir, I noted with interest several letters from your readers who seem to be unaware of the extent that rates charged for overseas mail are affected by costs outside the control of the British Post Office. We regret as much as our customers that this has led to overseas increases well above the inland rises.

In part, the recent increases in overseas tariffs reflect an international agreement governing payments made to countries receiving more mail than they despatch and as a result Britain has to pay an additional £16m in a full year to overseas postal administrations. Another element is the very large increase in overseas transportation costs as a result of higher fuel charges. There have also been increases in the payments required by overseas countries for handling mail in transit through their territories.

The biggest change to the pricing of surface parcels for overseas is the introduction, following strong customer demand, of weight-steps at every kilogram. Prices at the old weight-steps of 1, 3, 5 and 10kg have risen substantially; but at the new steps increases are nearly always much more modest. Thus a 3kg parcel to West Germany previously cost £4 and now costs £5.40 (35 per cent increase)—not £6.25 as stated by your correspondent; but a 6kg parcel has gone up by just 14½ per cent (£6.55 to £7.50).

Another of your correspondents claims that from January 1 EEC postal rates to Britain were reduced by 23 per cent. This is not the case. The original six EEC members have been applying their domestic rate at the first weight-step to each other for some time, but the only EEC countries which apply lower rates to the United Kingdom are Denmark, The Netherlands, France and West Germany. Postal arrangements with the Irish Republic have always been on the basis of inland prices, but to the rest of the EEC Britain does not charge lower rates because it would mean forfeiting some £5m revenue a year which would have to be recouped from other services.

It is also relevant that Britain is one of the few countries in the world which operates its postal services on a self-financing basis. Most countries receive some form of direct government subsidy, or cross-subsidization from their telecommunication services. Neither case applies with the British postal service, which is expected to operate at a profit and has done so for some years.

Finally, it was pointed out that we no longer sell the smaller size of airmail letter. This is because it is not suitable for handling at our 40 mechanized offices and business users tell us they prefer the larger A4 size. This size is being sold at the same price as the smaller version, allowing for the extra costs mentioned above.

Yours faithfully,
L. H. KINGSBURY.
Director, International Postal Affairs,
Postal Headquarters,
St Martins le Grand,
London ECIA 1HQ.

Design in the service of industry

From Professor Frank Height

Sir, Kenneth Owen's excellent summary of recent events in design education (January 30), especially the new links between the Royal College of Art with Imperial College and with Cranfield Institute of Technology and the support of the 1851 commissioners, shows how the country's existing educational resources can be employed more effectively in design.

The present moves are concerned mainly with the integration of engineering and industrial design at advanced level. A third element is now needed in the provision of economic, management and marketing studies. These should establish those products and industries which should take priority in relation to Britain's skill, capacity and potential; economic and marketing research in establishing adequate design briefs and the development of management and marketing functions in support of design.

The advanced Institute of Design for which I have been campaigning would provide integrated studies of all the components of design and stand at the apex of education for industry.

Prince Albert saw this clearly 130 years ago when the South Kensington site was established for the purposes of "art and science working together for the benefit of productive industry", and the need is greater today.

Such an institute could not be set up as a new and complete entity; resources do not exist. It would have to be a federation of institutions and people able to contribute to the development of design at a level commensurate with our national needs but with a headquarters in South Kensington where the echoes of the high endeavours of Prince Albert, Henry Cole and Lyon Playfair still resound.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK HEIGHT,
Professor,
School of Industrial Design,
Royal College of Art,
Kensington Gore,
London SW7 2EU.
February 2.

Comparing windmill costs

From the Chief Scientist, Department of Energy

Sir, Mr Stobart's comparison of the cost per unit of his small aero-generator with that of the 3 megawatt machine planned for Orkney (letters, February 4) does not compare like with like. The Orkney machine is a prototype, and one would expect the cost of subsequent production models to be considerably less.

It would be illuminating to compare the costs of the Orkney machine and that of producing an equivalent amount of electricity from a Trimble windmill either scaled up or linked and controlled in arrays and connected to the grid. I would also point out that the 3 megawatt output for this machine is not a maximum but will be attained over a range of windspeeds between .17 and .27 metres per second, commonly prevailing on Orkney.

Yours sincerely,
A. A. L. CHALLIS,
Chief Scientist,
Department of Energy,
Thames House South,
Millbank,
London SW1.

Claim challenged

From Dr A. R. Robbins

Sir, Mr E. M. Pearson, in his letter (Business News, February 2) claims, in a throw-away line, that insurance is the world's second oldest profession. I would strongly challenge that claim and ask him for his evidence.

I claim this honour for land surveying. My evidence may be seen in the Old Testament, the Book of Deuteronomy, chapter 27, verse 17, which reads: "Cursed be he that removeth his neighbour's land mark" (that is, boundary marker).

A. R. ROBBINS,
23 Blandford Avenue,
Oxford 0X2 8EA.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Lonrho sets the scene for the next act

Although significantly less than some of the wilder market forecasts, Lonrho's full-year profits up 52 per cent at £119m hardly rank as a disappointment. Meanwhile the ace up Mr Rowland's sleeve this time turns out to be a final dividend which takes the total for the year up by almost two-fifths to 14.3p a share gross.

This reward, although not quite twice covered on stated earnings, was enough to keep profit-takers at bay and the shares closed 1p higher at 105p where a yield of 13.6 per cent and fully-taxed p/e of around 3.5 times, reflect at least a partial narrowing of Lonrho's credibility gap with the investing institutions.

Total dividends for the year have thus cost Lonrho over £24m or about £10m less than it acquired through last November's rights issue. And the implication presumably is intended to be that those who feel the group will be pushed to find £158m to purchase House of Fraser are a long way wide of the mark. In fact the group claims cash holdings of £108m at the year end.

As expected almost all the trading improvement has come from the mining interests which boosted by higher production and a higher average gold price lifted their pre-finance contribution from £26m to £63m. These interests and the sugar operation clearly more than compensated for some fairly grim returns at home, although Lonrho maintains that Dutton Foreshaw had a good year and engineering managed a tiny contribution before financing costs despite the Hadfields steel company suffering "substantially" from conditions at home.

The question now is, leaving aside the House of Fraser move, whether Lonrho's existing operations can keep up the pace.

The likelihood must be that mining returns will slow but that the agricultural division, only now seeing the benefits from a booming sugar price could almost double last year's £13m operating profit to make up much of the leeway. But with precious little sign of recovery at home the group could once again find itself running on the spot.

Meanwhile with a fairly robust balance sheet expected before shareholders meet next month to vote on the House of Fraser bid—possibly showing net gearing below 60 per cent—the scene is neatly set for what could yet prove Mr Rowland's biggest coup.

The feeling is growing that Lonrho may have to pay more than 150p to capture Fraser but possibly not more than 175p given the agitation of some of the bigger performance funds with regard to their Fraser holdings.

Interest rates

Still guessing on MLR

Financial markets did not get the cut in MLR they had been hoping for yesterday. But the damage was not all that great, with gilts down by no more than a quarter and the FT 30 share index giving back no more than 6.9 points to 472 of its recent rally.

In short, markets continue to take the view that what fails to come one week will almost certainly turn up before too long. Whether that is a view that will need modification in the light of next Tuesday's banking figures remains to be seen.

More important internationally than the no-change MLR yesterday was the absence of any upward movement in West German interest rates. Although foreign exchange markets had not been betting that hard on any change, there is clearly increasing speculation as to how successful Bundesbank support operations will be in deterring the movement of funds out of the currency. Yesterday the DM lost a further 2.58 pfennigs to close at DM 2.1480 to the dollar.

● *Meanwhile the Scott Committee, reporting yesterday on the value of inflation protected pensions in the determination of public sector pay, added its name to the list of those favouring the introduction of index-linked bonds.*

As the report points out, index-linked bonds would not in themselves mean that private sector employers could automatically guarantee inflation-proofed pensions. The thrust of the Scott argument is that they would, however, at least give employers a better idea of the cost of offering various degrees of inflation-proofing.

Certainly, there is little doubt that pension funds would snap up a limited offering of index-linked bonds from the Government, and probably from solid blue chip companies too. But there is still no sign of any real enthusiasm for indexation on the part of the monetary authorities, and the idea that the authorities could be tied to a permanent obligation to issue index-linked bonds rather than take a much shorter-term view on interest rates in their funding decisions must surely be misconceived.

UDT

Under pressure

The market is clearly waiting for a new offer by Lloyds & Scottish for United Dominions Trust. In the meanwhile the formal offer document from the Trustee Savings Banks and the interim results from UDT caused no surprise. The agreed TSB offer of 57p cash for each UDT share is formalized and UDT's own results are every bit as bad as expected.

For the half-year to December UDT made pretax profits of £3m—or £3.8m after adjusting for loan stock conversion for full comparison with the previous year—as against £7.9m. But after tax and an extraordinary debit of £1.4m, it is reporting a loss of £1.2m as against a net profit of £5.3m.

The instalment credit side has had plenty to contend with. Not only have interest rates stayed high but demand for new loans has been sluggish and bad debts are piling up. In UDT's own case the translation of overseas results into sterling has contributed £1m to the extraordinary debits while, amazingly, costs related to the TSB proposals have cost £800,000.

If the hire purchase side was bad, the industrial interests were even worse. Last year these contributed £4.9m to pretax profits, over half the total. This year Swan Hire, the car rental group, ordered too many cars for market needs and then found their residual value at the time of resale sharply down, while the garages division, which includes several franchises, suffered from the recession in the industry.


Mr Leonard Mather, chairman of UDT.

In contrast, International Commodities Clearing House has been benefiting from the increase in its business. ICCH could yet prove one of the brighter stars in UDT's portfolio. It has assets of £16m but with profits last year of over £8m, and an apparent assured place in the futures market, its eventual value could be far higher.

With remaining uncertainties on the course of interest rates and demand for loans, it would be hazardous to anticipate the outcome for the year. Profits in the second half should, assuming lower rates and some industrial recovery, be substantially higher than in the first. But by then UDT will in all likelihood be part of another group and the shares at 59p reflect this more than their trading merits.

An International Petroleum Exchange will open in London in April

Oil traders move into the City

London is to have a new commodity market. The International Petroleum Exchange (IPE) which will begin trading on April 6, has already excited interest both among traders, who see an important addition to London's futures markets, and in the oil industry and among oil consumers, who are faced with increasing oil price instability.

The opening of the exchange has to be seen against the background of a switch in emphasis in commodity markets generally, and in the London markets particularly. Inflation, growing price volatility and the lacklustre performance of other forms of investment have attracted a mounting volume of funds to commodity markets in recent years. These funds—from commodity producers, manufacturers and speculators and investors—have flowed especially strongly into futures markets, where expansion has been much faster than in physical and spot markets.

Those behind the IPE scheme believe that it will play a leading role in restoring London's status as a commodity trading centre, a genuinely international market for one of the world's most important industries. Beyond that, it should attract large quantities of investment or speculative funds from abroad, enhancing the City's function as an earner of invisible exports.

The optimism is partly based on the New York experience, although a vital difference is that the New York Mercantile Exchange's Heating Oil Futures Market is an almost wholly domestic market. Nevertheless, since its inception in November, 1978, the market has grown rapidly. An average of more than 3,000 contracts are traded every day, amounting to some 750,000 tonnes of heating oil. In 1980 it was New York's fastest growing futures market.

London also plans to start with gasoil (heating oil), which is 30 per cent of the refined barrel and apart from heating is also used for diesel fuel and petrochemicals.

The main reason for choosing gasoil is that it is easily definable—an important qualification for commodity contract—and widely traded.

Contracts for naphtha and benzene could also be introduced and the optimists look forward to a futures contract in crude oil.

Like all futures markets, International Petroleum Exchange is designed to enable producers and consumers to hedge their costs. It is intended at present that the contract will be for 100 metric tonnes (in New York it is about 130 tonnes, but is quoted in gallons) EFLO grade, a standard European specification.

The price will be in dollars per tonne and one contract would be worth $30,000 to $40,000, with a minimum fluctuation of 25 cents. Delivery is to tanks in Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Antwerp, with nine delivery months quoted on the exchange at one time.

Suggestions that a futures market should be formed to allow users and traders of petroleum products to protect their sales and purchases against possible sudden and violent price fluctuations have been around for at least seven years, but it is Iran that it has been possible to identify a sufficient number of participants to make it work.

The revolution in Iran did two things. It accelerated the shift away from the multinationals' control of internationally traded oil and, at the same time, raised prices by 160 per cent. The effect was to increase markedly the role of the middleman in crude oil trading and to lessen the users' security of supply. Refiners were faced both with greatly increased raw material costs and much greater uncertainty over the sources of their raw material.

A trend which had been under way since the early seventies was greatly speeded up. In 1970 60 per cent of non-communist world's oil supplies outside North America were handled by the seven leading oil companies—Shell, BP, Exxon, Chevron, Mobil, Texaco and Gulf. After the revolution in Iran the multinationals' share of internationally traded oil had shrunk to 40 per cent.

More important was the fact that they no longer had sufficient crude to ensure that their own refinery requirements were met. Trading of both crude oil and products increased sharply. New trading organizations sprang up overnight and traders and brokers already in existence greatly increased their business.

Also after the Iranian revolution, Opec members raised prices individually, often with wide disparities of price from producer country to producer country.

Contract terms were cut back from periods of five years or more to a matter of months and premiums were added to official selling prices for some or all deliveries, depending on the strength of demand. From dealing with only 2 to 5 per cent of crude oil traded internationally, spot markets took 15 per cent and more of the trade. Independent refiners could sell to hungry markets at vastly inflated prices as both companies and countries became frightened of running short of supplies.

The ability to make trading profits (and losses) by balancing the supplies of multinationals and governments, often suddenly deprived of supplies which they had thought assured, grew enormously. The conditions for a hedging mechanism were made.

Today prices demanded by Opec governments remain disparate, over capacity in refining is marked, and competition for product markets is strong. The uncertainties are as great as ever. The industrialized West looks as though it will get through the winter without undue pressure on supplies despite the Iran/Iraq war, but the balance between adequacy and shortage is a fragile one. A hedging medium for both traders and refiners should be useful.

Producers have increasingly tended to push for the highest prices obtainable on the market, cutting back their production to defend an official base price. The fluctuations can be sharp, with premiums equal to 10 per cent of supplies being switched on and off and prices on the spot market fluctuating even more markedly over short periods.

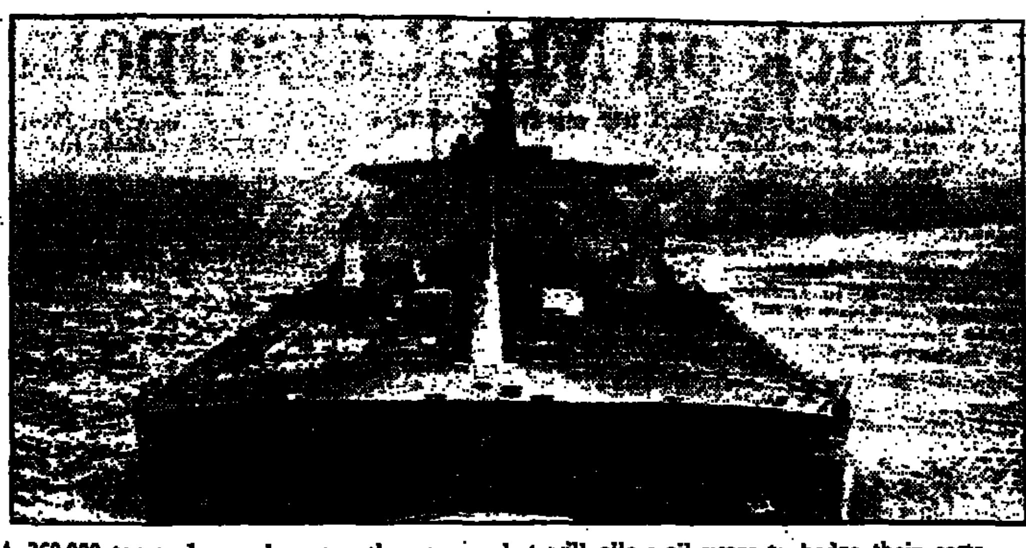
If the differing crude prices between suppliers and the differing capacity use and market requirements of refiners are added in, a hedging market in gasoil, offering as it does a greater openness of dealing and security of contract, should be well used.

There is no doubt that the International Petroleum Exchange is well supported by the oil industry, oil merchants, and commodity traders. Many of London's leading commodity firms are among the 28 floor trading members. British Petroleum has a representative on the Committee of Management.

But it is also clear that the market expects and hopes for speculative interest from private investors, for whom there is at present no direct way of trading in oil. In the United States the speculators have tended to set the tone of futures markets, although they have also been criticized for upsetting physical prices.

As an international market, the IPE could have a marked impact on the oil business and on the price of the world's most important commodity.

Nicholas Hirst and Michael Prest


A 269,000 ton tanker under way: the new market will allow oil users to hedge their costs.

Technology

Cutting the cost of wear and tear

Kenneth Owen

Longer-life washing machines and the 100-miles-a-gallon family car are two benefits which could easily result from the application of a single technology, according to two speakers at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in London this week.

The same technology could produce energy savings in the United Kingdom of up to £700m a year, they claimed.

The name of the magic technology is tribology. Though it has been around under that name for about 15 years, we probably still need to record that it is the technology of "interacting surfaces in relative motion"—that is, it is concerned with such things as friction, wear and lubrication.

When the strange new name burst upon a suspicious engineering fraternity in the mid-1960s, it was seen as offering the prospect of great savings in industry. Good tribological practice could result in significant reductions in maintenance costs and better-quality products.

Since then the emphasis has changed to an awareness that economy in energy and in materials is an even more significant measure of the importance of tribology.

This at least is the thesis of Dr Peter Jost and Dr Jack Schofield, as detailed in their James Clayton Lecture this week. Dr Jost, a company chairman, is the original Tribology Man, having given birth to the subject in a report for the Department of Education and Science in 1966. His co-author this week is a senior lecturer (in tribology) at Liverpool Polytechnic.

Primary energy savings can be obtained through tribology simply (though in practice it may not be simple) by reducing friction—through the redesign of bearings, for example.

Secondary savings are possible by minimizing wear and so reducing the need for more parts to be manufactured to replace those which are worn.

And, indeed, there are tertiary savings: those obtained by not having to make the materials from which replacement parts are made. All these direct savings can be calculated in energy terms and are substantial; often a primary saving will result in a larger secondary saving and a still larger tertiary saving.

In Britain, the big users of energy are the transport (23 per cent), industrial (37 per cent) and domestic (27 per cent) sectors. In the transport sector, cars in particular offer great scope for energy saving through tribology. Between 0.8 and 1.5 per cent of the total United Kingdom energy consumption is used to produce motor cars—and about 15 per cent of the total to propel them.

Engines and transmissions are obvious targets for appropriate research and development. Apart from attempts to improve the basic efficiency of the petrol engine, there is scope for reductions in the energy wasted through friction, wear and ineffective sealing.

Some of these latter losses are not caused simply by ignorance of available technology, but are the result of conscious design decisions aimed, for example, at lowering production costs or "eliminating" the need to lubricate.

The universal coupling is quoted as an example of this practice by Jost and Schofield. The present version contains a single charge of special lubricant (which cannot be replenished) and has a limited life of two or three years. Its conventionally lubricated predecessor lasted the life of the car.

This and many other examples in motor vehicles contributed to enormous energy losses. Applying existing technology to correct such avoidable wastages in the transport sector could save from £79m to £140m a year in energy costs.

Further research and development—in piston rings and cylinders, transmissions, and lubricant and "viscometrics"—would recoup its cost many times over. Improving "thermal cycles" that is, the basic petrol-engine process, also merits further R and D but both research costs and benefits in this area are speculative.

Identifiable costs and benefits are estimated by the two authors as follows: piston rings, a £33m annual saving for an R and D cost of £400,000 a year for three or four years; *transmissions, savings of £123m to £182m for an R and D cost of £1m for each of four years*; and lubricants, £97m-£196m savings for three years' R and D at £533,000 a year.

These are the type of savings that would make the 100 mpg small family car a realistic probability. With "some engine thermal improvements", the authors change their assessment from one of probability to certainty.

Though no estimates are given for these thermal developments, there is clearly great scope for improvement here. The efficiency of the petrol engine is only 20-22 per cent, and of the diesel engine 33-37 per cent. Jost and Schofield look to improvements from chemico-thermal treatments, oxides, ceramics, carbides and intermetallic coatings, and advanced lubricants. In the traditional engine, about one-third of the fuel energy is lost through the transfer of heat into the cooling water by way of the cylinder walls.

In the industrial sector, again, the authors' detailed analysis points to substantial potential energy savings. For an R and D investment of about £5.1m spread over five years, a triple direct energy saving could be achieved: up to £50m a year through improved performance in power generation and turbines; up to £140m through improved performance in the manufacturing and process industries; and up to £26m in secondary and tertiary savings in the metallurgical and other industries in the area of maintenance.

In the domestic sector, there are many examples of short-life products whose design ignores the rising cost and shortage of energy and raw materials. Programmers and motor modules in washing machines and spin dryers are among these; failures are fairly common, components cannot be replaced, and replacement of the complete unit is the expensive and wasteful norm.

In summary, then, energy savings of between £468m and £700m a year in the transport, industrial and domestic sectors are possible through improved tribology, for an estimated R and D spending of £12.3m over five years.

Business Diary: No tubes mañana ● Morris memories

Consolation at last for those poor tormented souls who have to rely on the London Tube to take them to work. It could be worse: you might live in Madrid, for instance.

The Tube workers there have just given notice of a particularly malevolent form of industrial action. From next Friday they have promised to go on strike until their demands are met.

The scenario, as they say, may look familiar. One can almost imagine some Hispanic Ray Buckton piping through the columns of *El País*: "I've never seen my caballeros so angry."

What sets the Madrid Metro men apart from their Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) counterparts, for the moment anyway, is the timing of the strike. They will stop work for one full day at intervals of about four days until December 31 unless the Metro company concedes a 15 per cent pay rise.

The first shut-down comes, appropriately enough, on Friday the 13th and a further 83 days have been singled out, apparently at random.

The one million Spaniards who travel on the Tube daily are, naturally enough, mortified. The company is offering a 10 per cent salary increase and says that the population of Madrid will not be the only losers if the strike goes ahead.

It estimates that 83 workless days would cost the average worker nearly 23 per cent of his or her annual salary, or about 3,259 pesetas, roughly £17, for each week.

The public clamour to see BL's new Mini Metro being made, which Business Diary mentioned earlier this week, is nothing new to the Morris arm of the company.

While researching his book The Annual Outing and Other Excursions, Alan Delgado dug up an interesting publicity blurb about a coach trip to the Morris works, Oxford in the 1930s.

"Thousands of men are working—thousands of cars are taking shape," Southdown Motor Services told their customers of 1938. "From the specialized Morris factories the parts arrive at Cowley continuously. Engines . . . bodies . . . wings . . . axles . . . chassis frames . . . radiators . . . wheels—a constant stream is arriving, to be instantly sorted out for assembly.

"Then, as the chassis frames move slowly along the conveyors, various parts are assembled at different points along the line. Everything happens with clockwork precision. Men and machines are synchronized.

"From out of a maze of separate parts, complete cars emerge. They grow before your eyes. It is a spectacle worth travelling hundreds of miles to see: a symbol of modernity and progress; an experience you will value all your life."


A prewar Morris Eight from Cowley.

Ah, they don't write promotional copy like that any more.

The return fare for this little charabanc jaunt was 15s 6d, including tea. One of the models which grew before your eyes was the magnificent Morris Eight pictured here, which perhaps explains the outing's popularity.

Delgado says discreetly of the description that it "makes interesting reading in the light of working conditions in the motor industry today". Who would disagree?

● An outbreak of extreme sensitivity has scuppered a series of wooden spoon awards for the advertising industry which Business Diary mentioned on Wednesday.

The Creative Circle, a band of creative directors who seek to maintain professional standards in advertising, had come up with the bright idea of doubling its usual awards, which are due to be presented next month.

Every "best of . . ." category would be twinned with a booby prize equivalent titled in such a way that it left the unfortunate holder with no doubts that his efforts were less than impressive.

It all sounded great fun to Business Diary, even though the circle was charging £1 each for entries "to prevent the judges being totally swamped".

No sooner had we applauded the venture than the circle decided it was not such a good idea after all and promptly dropped it.

Circle president Len Sugarman said: "I regret the advertising industry in London is not yet ready for so revolutionary an awards event."

And so do I. Industry pressure is blamed for the decision.

● The Consumers' Association is beginning to think you can win a lot of battles without winning the war.

One failure causing particular chagrin, noted in the February issue of *Holiday Which?* just published concerns disclaimers and exemption clauses in the booking conditions.

The association succeeded in getting the Unfair Contract Terms Act through Parliament as a private members' Bill in 1977. Since then clauses disclaiming or limiting liability for anything done (or not done) by people not directly employed by the tour operator (like the airline and the hotel) have had no legal effect.

Yet *Holiday Which?* found that most of the brochures they examined still include such clauses. "The tour operator is responsible for providing the holiday you have been led to expect", *Holiday Which?* says.

● Only one working woman in eight in the European Community claims to be at a disadvantage compared with men over salary, employment opportunities, promotion, training or working conditions. The level of dissatisfaction is actually lower in Britain than in other European countries.

The surprising figures come from a study sponsored by the European Commission and recently submitted to the European Parliament.

However, it still leaves four million discontented working women in Europe. Another four million believe that other women are at a disadvantage even if they themselves are not.

The reason that women in the United Kingdom are more content than their continental counterparts, according to Hélène Riffault, the author of the report, is that in Britain more women work only among other women, so that sex discrimination is less evident.

There would be scant evidence, in any case, for supposing that it had anything to do with our Equal Opportunities Act. Almost half the British respondents had never heard of it or actually denied its existence.

The Gulf emirate of Sharjah has just built a beautiful new airport complete with every modern facility except a steady stream of incoming flights. Word from the Gulf has it that when a local reporter rang the management to suggest an interview the voice on the phone said: "Sorry, I'd love to see you but I've got a plane coming in on that day."

David Hewson

Stock markets

Equities fall back on MLR disappointment

No change in the minimum lending rate yesterday came as a disappointment to a market that had been steadily improving over the last few days hoping for a 1 per cent cut.

After a cautious start, which saw some profit-taking ahead of the end of the account today, many buyers withdrew to await the MLR decision. The news left conditions drab in a thin market, although with little selling pressure.

The FT Index, which had fallen only 1 point to 477.9, dropped a further 3.3 by noon, but with hopes abandoned of an MLR cut it fell further, to close 6.8 points down at 47[illegible].

Dealers' attention was firmly following gilts. But, opening in the morning at steady prices, longs attracted little attention until after the announcement when they eased off. By closing time, they had recovered £½ with hopes of a cut in MLR ruled out until nearer the Budget.

Shorts, however, saw some heavy investment buying prior to the expected news, gathering £1 by lunchtime. After initial strength, shorts drifted back £½. Dealers expressed concern over reports that the Government is reconsidering its policy of allowing sterling to float.

The low-key atmosphere stretched into the leading industrials, with dealers reporting a very quiet day, even though many had already relinquished any hopes of a cut. The sector looked dull from the outset and leading equities fell back several pence, some improving later in the day. Disappointment knocked 4p off ICI at 292p, later recovering to 294p. Beecham fell to 177p, a 3p drop and Glaxo was down to 272p. GKN, on the news of further large-scale redundancies, droped 3p to 142p and Courtaulds fell 1p to 55p. Lucas, which had gathered strength from the Nissan plant plans, fel back 2p to 171p on profit-taking, but Hawker Siddeley continued its upward move, 2p beter at 264p.

Electricals saw the greatest setbacks with the leaders suffering losses of up to 13p following recent strength. GEC droped 13p to 618p, while Thorn/EMI shed 6p to 282p. Unitech recovered from its recent profits warning, up 7p to 23p, but this has still had its efefcts on Diploma, down 7p at 153p, and Electrocomponents, at 638p, a drop of 5p. ICL, however, which attracted investment demand, was able to pull back 4p to 35p.

The results from Lonrho failed to stimulate the shares early in the day, dropping 1p to 103p, but with the news of a better dividend and profits, it managed to pick up to close after hours at 108p.

Satisfactory results from Blundell-Permoglaze added 2p to 81p and similar good news from IDC saw the shares firm 7p to 63p.

Other rises saw European Ferries celebrating the end of its seamen's dispute, climbing 3p to 152p. Offer terms from predator Turnbull Scott left shares unchanged at 405p, but Stag Line added 3p to 405p.

Dealers have been reporting renewed interest in finance to oil group Minsters Assets, where Britannia Arrow holds 12.5 per cent. The price has risen, this account, from 63p to 70p, closing 1p off at 69½p yesterday. The attraction is its 2.5 per cent stake in block 30/23 in the North Sea which straddles the recently upgraded Argyle Field.

After Lee Cooper's £25m contract with Czechoslovakia, the shares were 15p higher at 166p and speculative gains were made by Aquascutum "A", adding 3½p to 31p. Unaffected by Avana's share disposal, Robertson Foods rose 5p to 155p and Avana was up 7p to 210p with the bid still in the air.

Meanwhile, trading results from M. L. Holdings added 5p to 255p and Aaronson Bros, also reporting, gained 1p to 57p.

But Christie-Tyler lost 3p to 39p on first-half losses. Investment recommendations boosted Henlys 4p to 82p and put 5p on ERF at 52p. Both L. Barget, adding 10p to 160p, and Old Swan Hotel, 8p to 68p, rose on speculation. Chubb added 2p to 77p on comments suggesting a takeover by GEC.

Dupont weakened a further 2p to 7p on continuing fears that Government aid will not be forthcoming. Otherwise the engineering sector was not too badly affected by MLR expectations. J. Brown dropped 1p to 72p and Vosper remained unchanged at 101p.

After Wednesday's boost, breweries tended to retreat with the leading shares dropping across the line. Bass shed 3p to 206p, Grand Met 2p to 166p and Whitbread was 1p lower at 151p.

Banks, unperturbed by the general disappointment, opened firm but fears of future pay talks as most of the sector losing further ground. Barclays dropped 3p to 383p and Nat West fell 1p to 365p, but Lloyds remained unchanged at 325p.

Midland bucked the trend with a 2p rise to 318p.

Financials had a quiet day and although there was renewed support early on for FNFC with a 1p increase to 31p the shares fell back to 29½p by the close. UDT, still waiting bid developments from Lloyds & Scottish and Trustee Savings Bank, shed 1p to 59p.

The spectacular feature in oils was the exploration agreement between Cluff, climbing 15p to 340p, Celtic Basin, up 25p to 100p, and BP which fell 8p to 408p. Otherwise the market was dull and leaders closed easier with Shell down 4p at 428p, Lasmo shedding 15p to 659p and Burmah down 3p to 186p.

Property and insurance sectors, which had particularly looked forward to the benefit of cheaper money, were both relatively unchanged, with a mixture of rises and falls. In the property market, Hamerson "A" added 10p to 625p, Haslemere continued upward with 2p to 338p, but Land Secs was unchanged at 388p

Equity turnover on February 4 was £127.484m (bargains, 11,502). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were ICL, GEC, GUS, ICI, Lonrho, Chubb, British Land, Racal and Ultramar.

Traded options: Dealers reported a total of 1,147 contracts with over half of the trades coming from Lonrho which attracted 642. Other trades were Racal with 196 and Lasmo with 16.

Traditional options: Dealers reported quiet trading conditions on declaration day. Calls were made in Lonrho at 10p, Town & Country at 29½p and ICL at 7p.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Aaronson Bros (F)	55.4(46.9)	1.96(4.0)	3.62(10.96)	3(3)	8/4	4.2(4.2)
Apex Props (I)	—(—)	0.36(0.33)	1.62(1.49)	0.7(0.7)	30/3	—(2.0)
Beaumont Props (F)	—(—)	1.46(1.27)	6.6(5.3)	3.7(3.0)	26/3	5.25(4.5)
Blundell-Perm (F)	23.7(20.76)	1.84(2.19)	6.3(23.4)	3.2(3.2)	1/4	4.8(4.8)
Christie-Tyler (I)	33.4(34.9)	0.44*(1.6)	7.6(8.0)	1.0(2.0)	6/4	—(6.5)
IDC Group (F)	45.2(44.4)	1.03(1.25)	7.6(60.26)	3.8(3.5†)	—	5.06(4.6†)
Lonrho (F)	2,101(1,566)	119(78)	19.4(16.1)	6(4.68)	—	10(7.32)
Mining Supp (I)	14.09(10)	2.37(0.55)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(2.0)
ML Hldgs (I)	12.4(8.9)	0.44(0.37)	7.05(6.03)	2(2)	7/4	—(10)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. * = loss; † = adjusted for scrip issue.

Turnbull counter-bid of £4.9m for Stag Line

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Turnbull Scott has emerged as a second bidder for Stag Line, capping the 355p a share offer from Hunting Gibson with terms worth 400p a share. This values Stag Line at £4.9m.

Shares in Stag Line had been trading well above the price offered by Hunting Gibson, anticipating a higher offer. They closed yesterday 3p up at 405p.

The Stag Line board, which together with family interests controls about 40 per cent of the equity, said last month that it was aware of the possibility of another offer, but it was not clear last night whether this statement referred to Turnbull Scott or whether there may yet be another bidder waiting in the wings.

Mr Reginald Pender, managing director, deflected all questioning on this issue with "No comment." He said the board would be meeting to discuss the latest development.

Mr Graham Turnbull, a director of Turnbull Scott, said that both companies knew each other well but had not met since the middle of January. He said that Stag Line would fit well with Turnbull Scott, whose dry cargo carriers were mostly smaller than Stag Line's. Turnbull Scott had net assets of £12.1m at March 31, 1980.

Turnbull Scott, which has a share of 0.36 per cent in Stag, lost £237,000 pretax in the year to last March but in the ensuing six months made a £360,00 profit.

The offer for Stag Line wil include an alternative to casl in the form of loan stock o note, and the terms will b contained in the formal offe document.

Hunting Gibson, the initia bidder, had already receive an irrevocable undertaking t accept from Ropner Holding in respect of its 29.9 per cer stake in Stag Line. The unde taking would lapse if Huntin Gibson fails to get a majorit holding in Stag.

A spokesman for Huntin Gibson refused to comment o the counter bid from Turnbu Scott. "We haven't had time consider it", the spokesma said.

Margins dip at Blundell-Permoglaze

By Catherine Gunn

Paint manufacturer Blundell-Permoglaze Holdings took a larger share of a declining paint market last year, but its margins were trimmed by rising costs. Pretax profits for the year to October 31 were £1.84m, down from £2.19m the previous year, on sales up 14.2 per cent to £23.7m.

The total dividend has been maintained at 6.85p gross after a lower final payout of 4.57p gross. The board is confident that this year will go well.

A heavy de-stocking programme last year meant a £442,000 addition to the group's tax bill in the form of a claw-back of stock relief, and knocked attributable profits down from £1.49m to £401,000. Mr Newlands Basset Smith, the retiring chairman, said yesterday that had not stock relief had to be calculated at November 14 as the Government required, the group would have received tax relief of £320,000. However, the picture should balance out this year.

Meanwhile, lower stock levels released £1m which would otherwise have been used to finance stocks. This was instead placed on deposit and more than covered the group's interest costs, producing a net credit of approximately £20,000.

Decorative paints produced 75 per cent of the group's reduced pretax profits and pushed sales in volume terms up by around 5 per cent. The paint industry as a whole reports a volume decline of around 7 per cent. The decorative paint market continued to decline in the first two months of this financial year, but there are some signs of improvement.

The industrial division supplies domestic appliance manufacturers, and the joinery, general engineering and motor industries. Reflecting their problems, its contribution fell from 10 to 7 per cent of group profits although sales have remained at 14 per cent of group turnover.

Aaronson payout held but profit is halved

By Rosemary Unsworth

Aaronson Bros, the chipboard and veneer merchants, found its margins under increasingly severe pressure last year and pretax profits were halved. However the dividend was maintained.

With turnover rising by 17 per cent from £47m to £55m, pretax profits fell from £4m to £1.9m in the 12 months to September 30 1980. They did manage to hang on to its market share in exports where sales rose by 37 per cent to £11m. At the same time margins were clipped by the strength of sterling as goods came in from the EEC, Spain and Sweden, and the group was unable to pass on the effects of inflation, higher energy costs and the rise in prices of oil-based raw materials.

On top of these factors, Aaronson's capital expenditure programme continued, at a cost of £4.8m, which helped to push borrowings up by £5m to £11m and force interest charges from £740,000 to £1.48m. Capital e penditure should be sharply r duced this year as most of th plant improvements have no been completed and Aaronso should benefit from improve production capacity.

Capital expenditure in th last five years has come about £18m.

In addition, the group ha strengthened its position in th home market by the acquisitio for an undisclosed sum, several distribution compani since the year end.

Reorganization costs for th operation came to £900,000 an are included in the results an extraordinary item. Befo the acquisitions, Aaronson ha distribution links in the Iris Republic, Northern Ireland an Scotland. It plans to use th outlets for smaller, more loc deliveries of goods.

The final dividend has bee maintained at 4.28p gross whic with the interim of 1.71p gros gives a same again total of 6

Arthur Guinness chairman's warning

At yesterday's annual meeting of Arthur Guinness, the chairman, the Earl of Iveagh, told shareholders that, as far as the non-brewing side is concerned, he expected the group would be able to improve on 1979-80's performance. But he said it would take more than one year to get back to the 1978-79 profit levels. The group's pre-tax profits fell from £52.9m to £43.3m last time and the non-brewing side was responsible for most of the drop.

Guinness's experience in the first quarter of the new year has shown little respite from the situation reported in the review of 1979-80 and the chairman warned that he could only remain very cautious in forecasting how the rest of the year might run.

IDC lifts total dividend

Although the IDC Group's turnover managed to edge forward from £44.45m to £45.24m in the 12 months to October 31 last, pretax profits slipped from £1.25m to £1.03m.

Net profits were £476,000, compared with £3.36m last year, which was swollen due to a big write-back of stock relief. The total gross dividend is being raised from 6.57p—adjusted for last year's scrip issue—to 7.22p. IDC covers the designing and constructing of industrial and commercial buildings, house-building, property development and fire protection services.

Date set for Oil and Gas debut

Dealings start in the shares of new exploration vehicle Oil and Gas Production next Wednesday. Of the 18.9m fully paid shares and the same number of partly paid on offer, 13.65m of each sort were alloted to institutions before subscriptions opened. The remaining 5.25m fully paid US$1 shares were 1.89 times oversubscribed.

Applications for up to 10,000 shares will be accepted in full and higher applications get 45 per cent of the amount applied for, or a minimum of 10,000 shares.

The 10 per cent partly paid shares were 9.47 times oversubscribed and applications for up to 2,000 shares are being accepted in full with higher applications getting 7½ per cent or a minimum of 2,000 shares. Letters of acceptance will be posted on February 10.

Dunton Group for unlisted market

The offer by Mr A. K. Sore and Mr A. L. Ward for 840,000 ordinary shares in the Dunton Group has closed. Before the offer, Mr Sore and Mr Ward held 6.26m shares (54.75 per cent) and 937,500 shares (8.19 per cent) respectively. The offer was accepted for 191,100 (1.67 per cent).

Mr Sore and Mr Ward intend to make available to the staff of Bulk Earthmoving, a Dunton offshoot, the first 100,000 shares acquired under the offer and to place the balance in the unlisted securities market.

Caparo may decide on CMT bid today

Private investment company Caparo may reveal plans to launch its long-awaited counter-bid for Central Manufacturing & Trading today. Mr Swraj Paul, who runs Caparo, said yesterday that following the Takeover Panel's ultimatum to the company to make up its mind by Monday morning on whether to bid or not, he has received additional information from CMT. He should be able to come to a decision today.

Hanson Trust, which has 13.3 per cent of CMT, made a £13m bid for it on November 28. This was followed in December by Caparo's statement that it might make a rival offer. Hanson's extended 49p a share offer expires on February 13.

Avana sells 6 pc stake in Robertson

Avana Group has sold its 6 per cent stake in Robertson Foods at 152p a share, raising more than £1m.

The group said it still planned to proceed with its £17m all-share offer for Robertson, the jam group, and that the money would be used to reduce Robertson's borrowings if the bid went through.

The stake is believed to have gone into several hands. Mr Christopher Robertson, chairman, said he would not expect a second bidder to appear before the defence document goes out.

Defence interests lift ML

By Our Financial Staff

ML Holdings, the piano frames to electronic warfare group, has increased profits for the six months to September 30 from £374,000 to £442,000 on turnover up from £8.9m to £12.4m.

Some 65 per cent of ML's business is related to defence spending and growth here has continued unabated. Signalling and control systems also remain profitable, but Crown Foundry, which makes piano frames and general castings, lost about £200,000.

The 40 per cent increase in turnover against the 18 per cent increase in profits reflects a strong defence order book, the profits on which tend to be taken at later stages of individual contracts.



Mr Ralph Price, chairman of M. L. Holdings.

Nevertheless, for the present year growth is likely to level of from last year's 25 per cent rise to £1.03m pretax and the probable outcome is for £1.2m to £1.3m.

In the longer term ML still looks for defence growth in the region of inflation plus 3 per cent upon which Nato spending is based. The company is still set against disposing of its loss-makers. The Crown Foundry business is seen as a potential substantial profit maker.

The interim dividend at 2.86p gross is unchanged. A tax provision of £230,000 at this stage is unlikely to be payable so earnings a share should end up ahead of last year's 37.28p.

On an unchanged dividend the shares at 255p, up 5p yesterday, yield 3.9 per cent with a historic p/e ratio of 6.8 with the figures adjusted for the £2m rights issue in September.

Sharp improvement at Western Mining

By Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

Western Mining, the Australian exploration and minerals company, raised first half net operating profits by 28 per cent to A$31.9m (£16m). But the dividend has been held at 7 cents.

BH South, Central Norseman, Gold Mines of Kalgoorlie and Hill 50 Gold Mine, in all of which Western Mining has a significant stake, also increased their profits by wide margins.

The big change in Western Mining's profits came from increased gold production. Sales of gold in the six months were 4,173 ounces. Western Mining produced none in the same period of 1979.

The company has also benefited from the sale of 35,566 ounces of gold over the same period by Central Norseman Gold, in which Western Mining has a 50.5 per cent stake.

Another feature was nickel sales. Despite a 6 per cent fall in sales to 19.765 tonnes, revenue was up by 8.3 per cent. But higher prices for cobalt and for nickel during most of the period were offset by an average 4.9 per cent strengthening of the Australian dollar against the American dollar.

BH South, which is 80.2 per cent owned by Western Mining, had consolidated net earnings of A$2.68m against A$1.78m in the same period of 1979. The company has declared an interim dividend of 4 cents.

Part of the A$25.2m BH South raised from the sale of five million Conzinc Riotinto of Australia shares was used to pay off loans. BH South says increased dividends from Alcoa Australia and CRA virtually offset the loss of dividends from companies sold to CRA.

Carr Boyd Minerals, an entirely separate company from Western Mining, has reported that Esso Exploration has the right to earn a 40 per cent interest in Carr Boyd's Leonora gold prospect if it drills a minimum of 1,000 metres.

Interim loss at upholstery maker

By Rosemary Unsworth

As forecast at the annual meeting, Christie-Tyler, the Welsh-based furniture and upholstery manufacturer, made a loss at the interim stage and has halved the dividend.

Pretax profits of £1.6m were turned into losses of £445,000 in the six months to October while turnover slipped by 5 per cent from £34.9m to £33.4m.

Christie-Tyler reckons that its upholstery volume, 90 per cent of the business, declined by 10 per cent over the period compared with an industry fall of 15 per cent so that it has been able to increase its market share to around 23 per cent.

The pretax loss is the first incurred since the group's listing in 1972 and reflects the exceptionally poor trading conditions in the furniture market, Mr George Williams, the chairman, said.

Redundancy payments to 250 employees who left last summer and closure costs amounted to £590,000. But the group points out that since the end of the rationalization programme in September it has been in profit, although at an unsatisfactory level.

Imports have also increased because of sterling's strength, further reducing Christie's margins, but the group said that it would be disappointed if it failed to work out the loss by the year end.

Under the new stock relief proposals £950,000 of deferred tax has been released, pushing after-tax profit to £736,000 compared with £773,000 the previous year.

Thyssen holds payout as profits decline

International

Net profits of Thyssen, the West German steel group, slipped to DM117.3m (£23.5m) in the year to September 30, 1980, from DM167.3m the year before.

Herr Dieter Spethmann, the managing board chairman, said the profits were satisfactory in the light of trading difficultes throughout the world. In the first quarter of the present year, he added, sales and orders had been static or declining, with average monthly turnover down by DM100m, but he declined to make a forecast for the full year.

Herr Klaus Kuhn, the finance director, said foreign business would pick up this year and includes a clear improvement in the results of the group's Budd Co in the United States. Budd recorded a loss and a 25 per cent sales fall to $1,100m (£470m) last year because of the poor state of the car industry.

Looking to steel production, officials said utilization for crude steel was at 70 per cent of capacity, little changed from the fourth quarter of 1980 when quotas were imposed.

Steel accounted for 26 per cent of Thyssen's overall 1979-80 world turnover of DM34,000m, which included sales within the group. Steel turnover rose to DM8,700m from DM7,800m.

Thyssen also reported that its pretax earnings on speciality steels rose to DM120m from DM72m.

As announced in December, Thyssen intends to pay an unchanged DM4 dividend for the year.

Natwest offshoot dips

The National Bank of North America, the New York-based bank which National Westminster bought in April, 1979, for $432m, yesterday reported disappointing results for 1980. Its net income fell from $17m to $12m (about £5m) after sharply higher provisions for bad debts and write offs of $3.3m for loss on proposed sale of leased assets.

Income during the year rose from $144m to $173m but operating expenses went up from $117m to $144m and bad debts increased from $14m to $23.5m.

Mr Thomas Frost, the president and chief executive who was brought in from British headquarters to run the bank, said that bad debts included $6m on losses to bank syndicates in which NBNA took part. These include Chrysler and ITEL, the troubled computer company.

Part of the increased expenses were not only due to inflation, but also to development costs.

Briefly

Alcan Aluminium (UK): Alcan UK states that the listings for its debenture stock and loan stock were suspended in compliance with Stock Exchange practice. No proposals are being discussed with regard to these securities, which will remain unaffected whether or not an offer is made by Alcan Aluminium Ltd for the ordinary shares of Alcan UK not already owned by it.

Bain Dawes: Bain Dawes and Partners, the pensions and financial planning company in the Bain Dawes Group, has acquired the Manchester-based pensions consultancy business and portfolio of clients of Philip Glennon Associates (Pension Scheme Planning) Ltd.

K Shoes: Acceptances of offer by C. and J. Clark for K Shoes' shares not already owned: 20.75m ordinary shares and similar number of deferred (91.2 per cent of each for which offer was made).

Apex Properties: Pretax profits for half-year to September 30, 1980, £363,000 (£335,000). Interim dividend is unchanged.

City of Westminster Assurance: Regular premium income for 1980 increased by 11.5 per cent to £2.08m.

Beaumont Properties: The big disappointment in the figures for the year to September 30 last from Beaumont Properties is the portfolio valuation. Observers had hoped for 215p a share but it worked out at only 190p. However, the total dividend of 7.5p gross is nearly 17 per cent up. Pretax profits rose from £1.27m to £1.46m thanks to rent reviews, so earnings a share rose from 5.3p to 6.6p. Mr J. Hugh Jones succeeded Sir Cyril Black as chairman nearly a year ago. The shares were unchanged at 141p.

Trust Securities Holdings announces a major acquisition which will provide about 400 acres of freehold development land within four miles of London's Heathrow Airport. To acquire the sites, the trust has purchased the Nearcity Group which, in turn, owns W. W. Drinkwater, which owns 900 acres of land, achieved trading profits of nearly £500,000 last year.

Thomas French & Sons: In his annual report, Mr T. J. French, chairman, reports that, in the United Kingdom, demand since last September has been at a more acceptable level than during the previous six months. French's overseas companies have continued to perform well.

Witter-Tarmac: Thomas Witter's chairman states that Tarmac has already acquired in the market 85 per cent of Witter's shares and that it is not in shareholders' interests to remain as minority holders. Witter's directors unanimously recommend all shareholders to accept the offers and intend to do so for their own holdings.

Sime Darby: The Far East trading and plantation group, is to develop a new cocoa estate in Sabah. The development will be carried out by Sime's plantation division in agreement with Permodalan Plantations, a Sabah company.

Profits leap at Mining Supplies

By Peter Wainwright

Mining Supplies, the Do caster company which recent bought Laurence Scott, t electrical machinery and co trol gear maker for £5.8 performed well in the 26 weel to October 25 even though tl engineering strike hit the co parative half-year.

Sales rose from £10m £14.1m but pretax profits lea from £551,000 to £2.37m. Th progress is not entirely surpri ing, because during the bid f Scott, Mining Supplies said th turnover had jumped fro £8.4m to £11.8m and preta profits from £300,000 to £2m i the first five months of th year. The group is continui its normal practice of not pa ing an interim dividend. It ha already said that it plans to a least maintained the gross tot at 2.86p a share.

These figures include nothin from Scott, which is as we because that company had t admit last year that losses i the first five months of 198 had grown to £1.7m—onl £160,000 short of the loss fo the whole of the year before. Reorganization was costing possibly hundreds of thousands o pounds of exceptional expendi ture.

The figures, by their nature in no way reflect National Coa Board cutbacks.

The group reports a "reasonably" good order book. It i thought that it has suffere less severely than other NC suppliers because the cuts fel most heavily on roof supports not a Mining Supplies specia lity.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Rossminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12%, over £50,000 12½%.

Business appointments

Barclays new company board

Mr Gordon Adam, a general manager of Barclays Bank and deputy chairman of Barclays Bank Trust Company, has also been made chairman of the newly-formed Barclays Investment Management. Mr David Moss, a director of Barclays Bank Trust Company, becomes a director of Barclays Investment Management. The executive directors of the new company are Mr Bill Hilling, Mr John Cain, Mr Mike Roberts, Mr Laurie Juniper, Mr Howard Beaufort and Mr John Embrey.

Mr Roger Silvers is now technical director of Johne & Reiboter (UK).

Mr Philip Glennon has been named an associate director Bain Dawes and Partners.

Dr J. V. Butcher and Mr A. G. Martin have joined the board of Yorkshire Chemicals.

Mr Daniel Meinertzhagen is to succeed Mr John P. R. Glyn as chairman of Alexanders Discount Company.

Dr B. A. Jarrett is the new group director, product technology, becomes a member of the Lucas Executive and is a director of Joseph Lucas.

Mr M. J. Sharman has been made a non-executive director of Blundell-Permoglaze Holdings.

Lord Hunt of Tanworth has succeeded Sir Leslie Kirkley as chairman of the Disasters Emergency Committee. The committee, which comprises five British relief agencies (the British Red Cross, CAFOD, Christian Aid, OXFAM and The Save the Children Fund), convenes to make national appeals on major international disasters.

Mr C. D. Spruce has become a director of Rank Leisure.

Mr Keith Rushton, director and general manager of Transtel Communications, has been made managing director of Transtel, the joint Extel Group and Extel Corporation of America Company.

Mr R. C. Wheeler-Bennett has been appointed chairman of Thomas Borthwick and Sons following the retirement of Dr W. A. Bullen as chairman.

Mrs Jan Calvert-Lee has joined the Confederation of British Industry in Birmingham as an assistant regional director.

Mr Arthur F. Leeks has joined the board of Tysler Holdings.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airprung Group	62	—	6.7	10.8	5.6
44	21	Armitage & Rhodes	42	—	1.4	3.3	17.3
192	92½	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	95	—	5.5	5.8	4.7
126	88	Frank Horsell	110	−1	6.4	5.8	3.4
110	53	Frederick Parker	53	−1	11.0	20.8	2.4
110	74	George Blair	75	—	3.1	4.1	—
110	59	Jackson Group	108	—	6.9	6.4	4.1
124	103	James Burrough	119	—	7.9	6.6	9.8
334	244	Robert Jenkins	330	—	31.3	9.5	—
53	50	Scruttons "A"	53	—	5.3	10.0	3.8
224	215	Torday Limited	215	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
23	10	Twinlock Ord	12½	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	76	—	15.0	19.7	—
35	35	Unilock Holdings	38	+1	3.0	7.9	5.8
103	81	Walter Alexander	103	+1	5.7	5.5	5.7
261	181	W. S. Yeates	261	+1	12.1	4.6	4.3

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"It gives Lonrho much pleasure to offer a satisfactory year's results to the shareholders"

R. W. Rowland, Chief Executive

Dear Shareholder,

Lonrho has achieved record profits and turnover this year, largely due to the performance of the mining, agricultural and hotel divisions of the Group. These three areas of business alone did well enough to overcome the effects of the general recession.

The balance sheet has been considerably strengthened—assets employed in the Group are now almost £850 million. Net current assets are up by £78 million to £147 million, with a major increase in cash balances which stood at £108 million at the year end. During the year we had a successful rights issue.

The underlying strength of your Company is the balanced range of its business—from raw materials and agriculture to manufacturing and retailing.

The Group is represented in 64 countries and employs over 140,000 people.

I hope you will find the brief review of the year's business of interest, and also glance at the graphs and figures on pages 52 and 53. We have every reason to believe that our steady rate of expansion can be maintained.

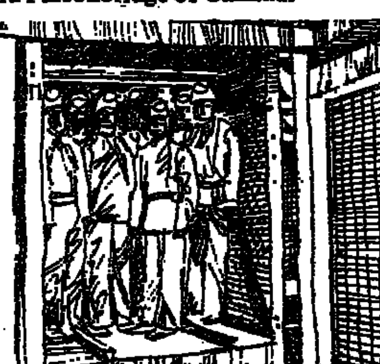
Mining

Mining profits increased from £26 million to £63 million in a good year characterised by firm metal prices, higher production and controlled costs.

The average price of gold realised was well in excess of that for the previous year. Total Group gold production was 367,000 ounces, with improved milling facilities at two of our properties and the acquisition of two small but productive mines.

Our 86 per cent. owned subsidiary, Duiker Exploration Ltd., has exercised its 36 per cent. participation rights in a major new mine with the Anglo American Corporation. This property, Eastern Gold Holdings, is forecast to produce 350,000 ounces of gold annually.

Western Platinum increased production by six per cent. to 131,000 ounces of platinum group metals. Firm prices prevailed throughout the year and costs were stable. Last year I referred to the research programme for the second higher-grade reef, and I am glad to tell you that the associated technical problems have been resolved. We are currently spending an estimated £14 million on exploiting this extensive new ore body. We expect to start production next year, building up rapidly to an additional 110,000 ounces of platinum group metals annually. Profits should consequently increase by about £10 million per annum at current prices and cost levels. The Lonrho Group refinery has been sold and is now wholly owned by Western Platinum, the mining company in which we hold 50.4 per cent. Our partners are Superior Oil of Houston and Falconbridge of Canada.



Miners at Ashanti

The collieries increased production to 2.62 million tonnes of bituminous coal and 535,000 tonnes of anthracite. We have started work on opening a new anthracite mine with an annual productive capacity of 600,000 tonnes.

Asbestos and copper markets remained depressed. Our small-scale operations, however, again contributed useful profits.



Gold from Ashanti

In the light of firm prices, gold continues to be our principal exploration target, and we are researching a number of deposits. Where viability has been proved, current work is aimed at gaining additional information for mine planning. We also prospect for other precious metals, base metals and coal.

Agriculture and Ranching

The world price of sugar improved rapidly during the course of the year and overall production exceeded 380,000 tons.

The new Dwangwa sugar project in Malawi is now working extremely well and some 50,000 tons of sugar are expected in 1981. The contribution to Group profits from our sugar operations is important to the Group.

Beef cattle in Africa

The Group's tea estates were adversely affected by drought and the drop in tea prices this year.

Your Company's other agricultural projects in Africa, including particularly coffee, timber and tobacco, and the growing of mushrooms, maize, wheat, barley, soya beans, onions and potatoes had a good year. The maize and wheat crops in Kenya this year have been especially notable.

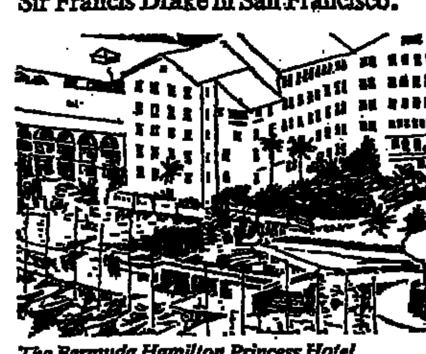
The total herd of beef cattle is still 100,000 head after sales of 20,000 head.

Finally, this year saw the completion of phase one at the Kenana Sugar Project in the Sudan. This scheme, which was invented and planned by your Company in 1971, continues to be the largest single agricultural project in Africa and the Middle East.

We were responsible for the site selection, the soil analysis, the development plans and the successful negotiations for the funding by Pan-Arab institutions. It now has Arab management, but Lonrho, as founder member, continues to be a shareholder of Kenana.

Hotels

We have now had a full year as 50 per cent. owners of Princess Properties in partnership with Mr. Daniel K. Ludwig, of New York. We are happy to report that the Princess hotel division's net profits reflected a 180 per cent. increase as compared with the previous year. The six fine resort hotels in the Bahamas, Bermuda and Acapulco, Mexico, continue their vigorous improvement policies. The Company also owns the Sir Francis Drake in San Francisco.



The Bermuda Hamilton Princess Hotel

By agreement with the Government of Mexico, the Princess Group is expanding its world-famous Acapulco Princess by construction of a further 320 rooms. It is proposing to build on its Acapulco site a major series of landscaped apartment blocks.

In Mexico City, Princess Properties owns a magnificent site on the Paseo de la Reforma for the construction of a new Princess hotel and office block. We expect to finish planning and initiate this project in 1981/82.

Despite the general downturn in business for hotels in the U.K., this has been another successful year for the Metropole Group.

In Brighton, a record 175 conferences and exhibitions were held, and in Birmingham another record was achieved of 475, maintaining our premier position amongst U.K. conference and exhibition hotels. The London Metropole's overall occupancy was 86 per cent., although tourism to the capital declined. Upgrading continues at the Metropole hotels. All new hotel building works are carried out by the Group's building company, Fassnidge, Son & Norris.

Motors

Jack Barclay, the world's largest distributors of Rolls Royce and Bentley motor cars, made a significant contribution to the results of the wholly owned Dutton-Forshaw Group. Orders for the new Rolls Royce Silver Spirit exceeded expectations.

The Volkswagen-Audi franchise had an excellent year, with the introduction of the Volkswagen Jetta and Audi 200 to the existing range and with unit sales of 79,000.

A new £2 million extension to the computerised distribution centre at Milton Keynes was completed in October, in order to meet the increased demand for vehicle parts and accessories from 355 well spread dealerships.



Rolls Royce from Jack Barclay

In East and Central Africa sales of trucks and tractors increased by over 28 per cent. but in West Africa sales have not yet returned to the levels attained in past years.

In Nigeria we have signed a nationwide distribution agreement for locally produced Mercedes commercial vehicles and we assembled and sold 35,000 Yamaha motor cycles. Over 7,000 outboard engines were sold, and volume production of glass fibre workboats has started up.

Aircraft and Cargo

Tradewinds, the cargo airline flying Boeing 707's out of Gatwick Airport, staggered through the year, against overseas competition, which it found difficult to meet on equal terms. We shall need to find a new formula.

The Beechcraft dealership in Africa sold 70 of these useful medium range planes.

Kendall Globe, travel and freight agents in the United Kingdom, has expanded comfortably.

Lonrho operates medium range turbo-prop aircraft in Africa and one Grumman II jet. We also represent Grumman in most African countries.

Textiles

The range of co-ordinated bedlinen marketed under the brand name "Accord" proceeded as planned to be the number two brand in the United Kingdom. 1980 saw the fruition of plans for the Brentfords' chain of shops, which aims at a mass market. New store openings brought the chain to 50 by December, 1980. Store image and ranges have been completely restyled. Lonrho Textiles Limited continues to make encouraging progress towards profitability.

Our textile subsidiaries in Africa have been very successful, increasing profits by 20 per cent. David Whitehead in Malawi exported 40 per cent. of their production to ten countries, in addition to catering for local demand. Production and sales of cloth in Zimbabwe exceeded 20 million metres.

YEAR AT A GLANCE	1980	1979
Turnover	**£2,100·66m**	£1,565·45m
Profit before tax and central finance charges	**£151·69m**	£94·93m
Central finance charges	**£32·59m**	£16·70m
Profit before tax	**£119·10m**	£78·23m
Dividends per share	**10p**	7·32p

TURNOVER

1961	1971	1980
£4 million	£199 million	£2,100 million

ANALYSIS OF GROUP PROFIT

(including associates)

Profit before tax and central finance charges:
year ended 30 September, 1980
Total £151·69m

Sector	Profit
Printing and publishing	£4·34m
Mining and refining	£63·34m
Agriculture	£12·95m
General trade	£14·79m
Textiles	£4·97m
Engineering and manufacturing	£1·58m
Export confirming, finance, property and insurance	£10·02m
Hotels	£16·56m
Wines, spirits and beers	£3·13m
Agricultural equipment, machinery and motors	£20·01m

Printing and Publishing

The acquisition of Harrison and Sons by SUITS was concluded during the early part of this year. This famous group prints company reports, text books and many other types of specialised paper, in addition to being one of the foremost printers of postage stamps in the world.

A highlight of the year for Harrison and Sons was the printing of the Post Office's commemorative stamp celebrating Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother's 80th birthday.

Holmes McDougall, who print educational books, magazines and posters, had a subdued year partly because of Local Authority spending cuts.

Daniel Greenaway & Sons, the Group owned City, financial and security printers, are set to become the most sophisticated financial printers in Europe with the installation of computerised typesetting in its London factory during the year ahead.

Outrams, publishers of the "Glasgow Herald" and "Evening Times", moved to their new premises in Albion Street, Glasgow. Sales of the "Glasgow Herald" and "Evening Times" average 330,000 copies a day during the year, whilst advertising volume was at a similar level to 1979. Outrams have announced plans to launch a new Scottish Sunday newspaper.

Overall the performance of our printing and newspaper publishing companies in Africa has improved, after some difficult years.

Export Confirming and Broking

The international financing operations of Balfour Williamson did well against exceptionally high interest costs for all major international currencies and the increasing strength of sterling.

John Holt's export confirming with West Africa has improved in line with the upturn in the economies of the countries concerned. After a few difficult years of import restrictions, the future looks promising once more.

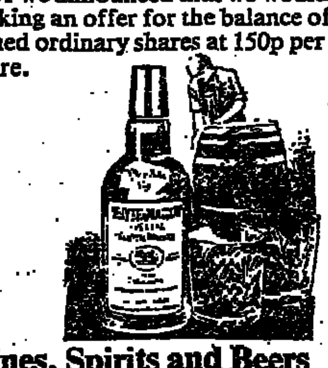
Our cotton broking firm handled approximately 34,000 tonnes in a quiet market.

Property

We are continuing to dispose of residential properties in England, whilst retaining, through our wholly owned subsidiaries, London City and Westcliff and AVP Properties, a portfolio of good quality industrial and commercial properties.

Department Stores

Lonrho Limited has a £75 million investment in the House of Fraser, just under 30 per cent. of the total issued share capital—there are no other major shareholders. House of Fraser owns Harrods, Dickins & Jones, Kendal Milne, John Barker and other fine department stores. Shareholders perhaps know that we are not happy with some recent House of Fraser Board appointments. On 28th January, 1981 we announced that we would be making an offer for the balance of the issued ordinary shares at 150p per share.



Wines, Spirits and Beers

After an extensive promotion and marketing exercise in the United Kingdom, volume sales of Whyte and Mackay whisky increased nearly 40 per cent. to reach nearly eight million litres for the year.

At the vineyards, the size and quality of the 1979 vintage enabled your Company's Château estates in the Bordeaux region—Rausan-Segla (2nd cru classe), Smith-Haut-Lafitte, La Garde, de la Tour and Olivier—to increase sales by 66 per cent. The shippers Louis Eschenauer had to contend with a fall in overseas demand; but the French wine operation altogether attained its highest ever profit level.

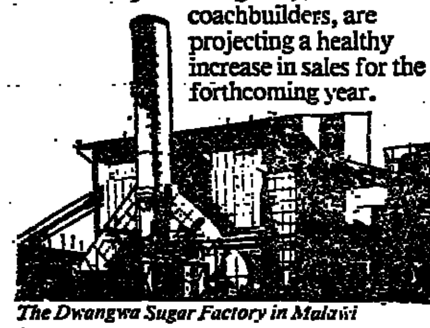
The Group's Pepsi-Cola plant in Kano, in this its first full year, sold nearly 2·8 million cases, making it the largest Pepsi bottler in Nigeria; capacity is being increased in 1981.

We have also for many years been bottlers for Coca-Cola in Zambia.

In the United Kingdom the Ashe & Nephew off-licence chain continued to grow, with shops exceeding 300 by November, 1980 and turnover for the year rising by £7 million to £41 million, bringing an increase in staff to 2,382.

Engineering, Steel and Manufacturing

In Zimbabwe the profitability of our engineering and manufacturing companies improved. W. Dahmer and Zambesi Coachworks, who are two of the country's leading bus, truck and coachbuilders, are projecting a healthy increase in sales for the forthcoming year.



The Dwangwa Sugar Factory in Malawi

The engineering industry in the United Kingdom suffered two thirteen week strikes by the engineers and steel workers, which naturally meant major disruption of work in hand at your Company's plants.

At Hadfields of Sheffield steelmaking suffered substantially, which is disappointing; however, the engineering and steel processing companies still contributed to profits. Lightfoot Refrigeration had a particularly good year.

In common with all domestic furniture manufacturers, Homeworthy experienced a downturn. It is now concentrating its operations in its modern Sunderland factory. The Emerald and Pland companies, volume manufacturers of a wide range of stainless steel sink tops, traded successfully, as did Peter J. Hopkinson, plumbing factors.

Sheer Pride produced reasonable results and is developing new products for its range of office furniture.

Pipeline

After the Independence of Zimbabwe it became a priority to recommission our 180 mile pipeline connecting the refinery at Umtali in Zimbabwe with the port of Beira in Mozambique. The pipeline and its pumping stations have remained idle for 16 years.

Our team of engineers began work on pressure testing the pipe in September, 1980. The major part of the pipeline has been proved to be in good order, although a portion will need to be replaced where it crosses the Pungwe marshes.

The line was designed for pumping either crude oil or refined products and, until such time as the refinery is on-stream, it will pump refined products from Beira to Umtali. Our breach of contract claims against Shell and BP continue in arbitration.

Conclusion

Many companies and projects are not particularized in this condensed review, nor can I name all the able and enthusiastic people whose services the Group is fortunate to have. With their support, we intend to look forward to continued growth.

I'd like to take this opportunity of thanking them, and saying how much pleasure it gives the Lonrho Group as a whole to offer a satisfactory year's results to the shareholders.

Yours sincerely,
Tiny Rowland

The seventy-second Annual General Meeting of Lonrho Limited will be held at the Great Room, Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, W.1. on Thursday 26th March 1981, at 12 noon.

The text is taken from the Chief Executive's review contained in the 1980 Report and Accounts which will be published later this month. Copies will be available from The Secretary, Lonrho Limited, 138 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6BL.

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER was steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £777.5-78.50 a metric ton; three months, £801-01.50. Sales, 4,450. Cash cathodes, £769-70; three months, £787.50-88. Sales, 575 tons (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash wire bars, £775.50-76; three months, £798.50-79. Settlement, £776. Sales, 14,250 tons (mainly carries). Cash cathodes, £765-66; three months, £784-85. Settlement, £766. Sales, 700 tons (mainly carries).

TIN was very steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £5,900.05 a tonne; three months, £6,035-40. Sales, 375 tonnes (mainly carries). Morning.—Standard cash, £5,835-40; three months, £5,975-80. Settlement, £5,840. Sales, 1,160 tonnes (mainly carries). High grade, cash £5,835-40; three months, £5,975-80. Settlement, £5,840. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, not available due to public holiday.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £292-92.50 per tonne; three months, £302-02.50. Sales, 4,050 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £293.50-95; three months, £303-04. Settlement, £295. Sales, 10,550 tonnes.

ZINC was steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £513.50-14.50 per tonne; three months, £525.50-26. Sales, 2,600 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £511-12; three months, [illegible]. Settlement, £512. Sales, 1,400 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £201.60 ($472.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was barely steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 560p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent 1,320.20); three months, 577p ([illegible]); six months, 592.50p (1,422.80c); one year, 628.50p (1,526.70c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 556-57p; three months, 573-74p. Sales, 48 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 553.5-54.5p; three months, 576-77p. Settlement, 559.5p. Sales, 151 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £607-09 per tonne; three months £625.60-26. Sales, 3,800 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £605.00-07; three months, £625.50-24. Settlement, £607. Sales, 2,950 tonnes (mainly carries).

NICKEL was steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,725-35 per tonne; three months, £2,690-95. Sales, 132 tonnes (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, £2,725-35; three months, £2,685-95. Settlement, £2,735. Sales, 150 tonnes (mainly carries).

RUBBER was quiet and slightly steadier (pence per kilo).—March, 57.10-58.00; April, 58.50-58.90; April-June, 60.00-60.10; July-Sept, 63.30-63.40; Oct-Dec, 66.30-66.40; Jan-March, 69.30-69.40; April-June, 72.30-72.40; July-Sept, 75.30-75.50; Oct-Dec, 78.40-78.50. Sales, 115 lots at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were inactive (all pence per kilo).—Spot, 56.50-58.00; Cifs, March, 61.00-61.75; April, 61.50-62.25.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): March, 962-964; May, 988-989; July, 1008-1009; Sept, 1028-1029; Nov, 1029-1030; Jan, 1037-1050; March, 1050-1070. Sales: 3179 lots including 9 options.

ARABICA (officials at 1645): Feb, 138.00-45.00; April, 141.00-44.00; June, 141.00-45.00; Aug, 142.00-45.00; Oct, 142.00-47.00; Dec, 142.00-47.00; Feb, 142.00-47.00.

COCOA was steady.—(£ per metric ton).—March, 839-40; May, 864-65; July, 888-89; Sept, 914-15; Dec, 944-45; March, 968-70; May, 987-90. Sales: 2371 lots.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £12 lower at £240.00; the "whites" price was £12 lower at £275.00. Futures were irregular. (£ per tonne): March, 253.75-54.25; May, 259.55-60.00; Aug, 258.75-59.00; Oct, 254.00-54.75; Jan, 250.00-51.00; March, 256.50-57.00; May, 255.00-56.50. Sales, 13055 lots. ISA prices (Feb 4): daily 24.68c; 15-day average 25.67c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was easier (£ per tonne): Feb, 118.30-120.00; April, 121.80-22.00; June, 124.80-25.00; Aug, 126.50-27.50; Oct, 131.50-36.90; Dec, 127.00-30.00; Feb, 128.00-32.00. Sales, 149 lots.

WOOL (cents per kilo).—NZ crossbreds No 2 contract was quiet: March, 355-355; May, 359-362; Aug, 371-375; Oct, 378-382; Dec, 382-384; Jan, 384-386; March, 386-388; May, 386-388; Aug, 388-390. Sales, 17 lots.

GRAIN. (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring No 1 13½ per cent was unquoted; US dark northern spring No 2 14 per cent March, £110.55 trans-shipment east coast; US hard winter 13½ per cent March, £105.25; April, £105.75 trans-shipment east coast; EEC was unquoted; English feed fob April-June, £115.75 east coast.

MAIZE: US/French Feb, £125.00 trans-shipment east coast; S African yellow April-May, £86.50.

BARLEY: English feed fob March, £101.75 east coast. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was barely steady.—March, £96.20; May, £99.80; Sept, £93.90; Nov, £97.80; Jan, £101.45. Sales, 466 lots. **WHEAT** was easier.—March, £107.10; May, £111.10; July, £115.05; Sept, £99.55; Nov, £103.40; Jan, £107.25. Sales, 245 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	OTHER MILLING WHEAT	FEED WHEAT	FEED BARLEY
S. East	—	£104.00	£94.70
S. West	—	£104.00	£95.20
W. Mid	£107.00	£104.00	
N. West	£110.90	£105.00	£96.00

MEAT COMMISSION.—Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Feb 5. GB Cattle 84.37p per kg lw (+0.86); UK Sheep 151.74p per kg est d cw (+14.07); GB Pigs 67.45p per kg lw (+1.59). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 6.0 per cent average price 83.64p (+1.37); Sheep numbers down 8.8 per cent, average price 155.80p (+16.99); Pig numbers down 0.5 per cent, average price 67.15p (+1.39). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 7.0 per cent, average price 85.59p (−0.69); Sheep numbers down 4.1 per cent average price 137.66p (+5.56).

POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb, £42.00; April £58.00; Nov, £53.60. Sales 95 (All of 40 tonnes each).

US forecast of dearer copper

Phelps Dodge corporation Chairman and President, Mr George Munroe said in New York yesterday that he expects copper prices to improve as the US recession ends.

In an address prepared for presentation to the Copper Club, he said copper prices could increase very materially since sustained prices at least double those at present will be needed to give a reasonable return on new mining project investment.

Mr Munroe said if prices do increase, "I would not expect the government to impose price controls which would deprive the domestic industry of the benefits of the high side of the cycle, as was done in the 1960s and 1970s.

"Thus I look for the copper industry to fare considerably better in the 1980s than we did in the 1970s."

He forecast consumption catching up with production capacity and said general inventories of refined copper today are "vastly healthier than the bloated levels of 1975-1978".

Discount market

For the second day in succession, discount houses were able to find the funds they needed without recourse to the authorities yesterday.

In quiet conditions, rates for secured money held the range of 13¾-½ during the morning, then drifted off in the afternoon to closing levels between 12½ and 13.

Dealers remarked that the clearing banks appeared to be short of funds, but that they were finding money with outsiders.

Foreign exchange report

A strong dollar dominated currency dealings yesterday, closing virtually at the top following a warning of high interest rates by FED chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, and that he sees no marked downturn in United States inflation this year.

The pound declined to 2.3340 at the outset, rallied to 2.3610 briefly on the unchanged MLR decision and then relapsed to close about 1½ cents off at 2.3405 (2.3575).

Its trade-weighted level was finally unchanged at 104.1 compared with 703.5 initially and 104.2 in mid-session.

Dealers reported a fairly active business, with Bank of England intervention not needed.

Gains were made over the mark, 5.0250 (4.9900), Swiss franc, 4.5500 (4.5275), and French franc, 11.5700 (11.4775), but the yen went in the opposite direction at 475.00 (478.50).

With the Bundesbank making no policy changes, the mark came under renewed pressure.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 5	Market rates (close) February 5	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.3350-3625	$2.3400-3410	.63-.73c disc	2.43-2.53c disc
Montreal	$2.7875-8200	$2.8025-8035	.90-1.00c disc	3.00-3.15c disc
Amsterdam	5.38-45fl	5.43½-44½fl	2¼-1¼c prem	4¼-3¼c prem
Brussels	79.65-80.65f	80.45-55f	13-3c prem	11-1c prem
Copenhagen	15.25-43k	15.41-42k	300-135ore prem	35ore prem-155ore d
Dublin	1.3315-3470p	1.3450-3460p	3p prem-9p disc	21-39p disc
Frankfurt	4.96-5.03m	5.02-03m	2¼-1¼pf prem	4½-3½pf prem
Lisbon	129.70-131.30e	130.70-90	82c prem-38c disc	100c prem-145c d
Madrid	196.00-197.50p	196.80-197.00p	18c prem-35c disc	180-261c disc
Milan	2357-80lr	2378½-79½lr	8-10lr disc	36½-39½lr disc
Oslo	12.52-67k	12.62½-63½k	235-75ore prem	275-100ore prem
Paris	11.45-58f	11.56½-57½f	3¼-2¼c prem	6¼-5¼c prem
Stockholm	10.65-78k	10.77-78k	255-340ore disc	1280-1380ore disc
Tokyo	470-80y	474½-75½y	255-185y prem	560-485y prem
Vienna	35.15-65sch	35.53-58sch	13gro prem-11gro p	28-23gro prem
Zurich	4.49½-56½f	4.54½-55½f	3-2c prem	7½-6½c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was at 104.1% unchanged

Other Markets

Australia	1.9960-2.0110
Bahrein	0.8820-0.8850
Finland	9.4560-9.4960
Greece	116.85-118.25
Hongkong	12.3210-12.3610
Iran	Not available
Kuwait	0.6375-0.6405
Malaysia	5.2090-5.2390
Mexico	54.20-55.70
New Zealand	2.4665-2.4865
Saudi Arabia	7.7895-7.8195
Singapore	4.8340-4.8640
South Africa	1.7775-1.7925

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	104.1	−23.3
US dollar	98.9	−5.0
Canadian dollar	84.8	−18.5
Schilling	113.8	+21.3
Belgian franc	108.1	+10.4
Danish kroner	89.8	−9.5
Deutsche mark	117.8	+36.2
Swiss franc	133.3	+72.8
Guilder	112.6	+16.7
French franc	87.0	−9.5
Lira	61.4	−53.1
Yen	149.8	+45.2

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7400-1.7430
+ Canada	1.1962-1.1965
Netherlands	2.3175-2.3200
Belgium	34.36-34.40
Denmark	6.5550-6.5600
West Germany	2.1470-2.1490
Portugal	55.90-56.10
Spain	84.10-84.20
Italy	1015.00-1018.00
Norway	5.3775-5.3725
France	4.9350-4.9450
Sweden	4.5750-4.5800
Japan	202.75-202.95
Austria	15.19-15.21
Switzerland	1.9445-1.9475

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8359-0.8362

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.6522	+4.68	+0.48	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.97784	+3.29	−0.91	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.59960	+4.73	+0.43	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.98934	+2.43	−1.87	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.82045	+2.80	−1.50	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.696603	+4.25	−0.05	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1231.97	+6.41	+2.11	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times. The EMS figures are for February 4.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 17¾-18¼; seven days, 17-17½; one month, 17¼-17½; three months, 17⁵⁄₁₆-17⁷⁄₁₆; six months, 16½-16¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $497 (an ounce); pm, $498.50 close, $491.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $505-508 (£215.5-217).
Sovereigns (new): $125-127 (£53.25-54.25).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%

(Last changed 24/11/80)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 13¾ Low 13

Week Fixed: 13⅞-13¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆	2 months	12⁹⁄₁₆
3 months	12½	3 months	12⁵⁄₁₆

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	13¼-13⅛	3 months	13⅜
3 months	12²⁹⁄₃₂-12²³⁄₃₂	4 months	13
4 months	12⅝-12¼	6 months	12½
6 months	11⅞-11¾		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15⅜-15⅛	7 months	13-12¾
2 months	15¼-15½	8 months	13-12¾
3 months	14-13¾	9 months	13¼-12⅞
4 months	14½-14¼	10 months	13¼-12⅞
5 months	14¼-14	11 months	13¼-12⅞
6 months	13-12¾	12 months	12⅞-12⅝

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14³⁄₃₂-13³¹⁄₃₂	6 months	12¾-12⅝
3 months	13¼-13⅛	12 months	12⅝-12½

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14	3 months	13¼
7 days	14	6 months	12⅞
1 month	13⅞	1 year	12¾

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 14⅛-14 Close 11½

1 week	14-13⅞	6 months	12¹³⁄₁₆-12¹¹⁄₁₆
1 month	14¹⁄₁₆-13¹⁵⁄₁₆	9 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆
3 months	13¾-13⅛	12 months	12⅝-12½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13¾ 6 months 13¼

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Wall Street

New York, Feb 5.—Stocks closed higher in moderate trading as the New York Stock Exchange index rose 0.67 to 74.31 and the average price per share 32 cents.

The Dow Jones industrial average gained 4.78 to 946.76 and advances led declines 1,002 to 443. Turnover eased slightly to 45,320,000 shares from 45,520,000 yesterday.

Airlines continued to rise. They were helped yesterday by a Civil Aeronautics Board decision allowing them to raise fares to compensate for full price increases. They would also benefit from any increase in fuel supplies.

Volume leader American Airlines added ¼ to 11¾. A block of 743,000 shares traded at 11¾. UAL Inc, in second place, rose ⅞ to 23⅞. Trans World climbed 1¼ to 22⅞, Delta 1⅞, despite lower January traffic, and Usair ⅞ to 20⅞. Active Eastern Airlines slipped ⅛ to 8⅞.

General Motors continued its recent gain, adding 1⅛ to 48, ex-dividend. Ford rose ⅞ to 19⅞ and Chrysler ⅛ to six.

Big retail chains reported mostly higher January sales and added fractions. K Mart gained ⅛ to 17⅞, Sears Roebuck ⅛ to 15⅞, J. C. Penney ¼ to 22⅞, Dayton Hudson ⅛ to 44⅞, F. W. Woolworth ¼ to 25⅛ and Tandy 1⅛ to 43⅞.

Active American Telephone, which has been rising recently in response to expectations of an imminent settlement of the Justice Department's antitrust suit, rose 1⅛ to 52⅞. General Telephone tacked on ⅛ to 26⅛ and International Telephone ⅛ to 29.

US commodities

GOLD futures were: CHICAGO IMM.—April, $587.20; June, $600.10; July, $606.50; Sept, $619.50; Oct, $626.00; Dec, $639.00; Jan, $645.50; March, $658.60; April, $665.20. NY COMEX.—Feb, $500.00-501.50; March, $504.00; April, $505.50-512.00; June, $521.00-525.00; Aug, $535.10; Oct, $547.60; Dec, $560.10; Feb, $567.00-572.00; April, $585.20; June, $597.80; Aug, $610.40; Oct, $623.10; Dec, $635.90.

SILVER futures closed a quiet session near the highs. The spot February contract gained 25 cents, settling at $15.12 a pound.—Feb, 1,512.00c; March, 1,322.00-1,326.00c; April, 1,340.50c; May, 1,356.00-1,368.00c; July, 1,400.00c; Sept, 1,431.50c; Dec, ...

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Stock Exchange Prices

MLR disappointment

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 26. Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, Feb 9. Settlement Day, Feb 16

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

OIL

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
346	178	Brit & Comm	232	-1	17.9	6.1	7.3
205	116½	Fisher J.	158	..	2.9	1.8	12.8
41	31	Jacobs J. I.	35	..	3.1	9.0	..
137	85½	Ocean Trans	129	+1½	12.7	9.9	15.4
137	105	P & O 'Dfd'	117	+1	10.0	8.5	7.8

MINES

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
16½	8½	Anglo Am Coal	£12½	..	53.5	4.3	..
892	485	Anglo Am Corp	573	-4	48.0	8.4	..
59¾	30½	Ang Am Gold	£37⅞	-⅞	501	13.5	..
56⅝	36⅞	Anglo Am Inv	£39⅞	-⅞	161	4.1	..
22	13¾	Anglo Transvl	£17	..	144	8.5	..
22	13¾	Do 'A'	£17	..	144	8.5	..
25	13½	Asarco	£16⅞	-⅞	60.0	3.7	..
73	43	Beralt Tin	67	..	7.1	10.7	..
12½	4⅞	Blyvoors	£6⅞	-⅞	196	29.8	..
277	119	Bracken Mines	140	+5	47.4	33.8	..
29⅞	11⅞	Buffelsfontein	£16⅞	+⅞	419	25.7	..
283	137	Charter Cons	206	-5	12.0	5.8	..
652	411	Cons Gold Fields	440	-12	32.1b	7.3	..
553	337	De Beers 'Dfd'	358	-5	43.2	12.1	..
13	4⅞	Doornfontein	£6⅞	-⅞	133	20.0	..
22½	6⅞	Durban Rood	£7⅞	-⅞	261	35.5	..
228	31	East Dagga	81	-3	8.3	10.3	..
17⅞	8⅞	E Driefontein	£11½	-½	193	16.8	..
19	6½	E. Rand Prop	£7⅞	-⅞	210	28.6	..
83	63	El Oro M & Ex	72	..	2.5	3.5	..
350	141	Elsburg Gold	155	• -4	44.0	28.4	..
39⅞	18	F S Geduld	£20⅞	+⅞	529	26.1	..
225	135	Geevor Tin	152	..	..e	..	..
11⅞	6⅞	Gencor	£7⅞	-⅞	80.8	11.3	..
670	264	Grootvlei	328	-11	116	35.2	..
234	132	Hamersley	155	..	..	..	..
275	148	Hampton Gold	235	..	3.6b	1.5	..
14½	6⅞	Harmony	£6⅞	-⅞	203	30.3	..
47½	21½	Hartebeest	£25⅞	-⅞	685	26.9	..
38⅞	23⅞	Jo'burg Cons	£26⅞	-1⅞	287	10.7	..
889	425	Kinross	543	+13	106	19.6	..
23⅞	10½	Kloof	£14⅞	-⅞	227	15.9	..
208	94	Leslie	110	..	33.4	30.4	..
16½	6⅞	Libanon	£6⅞	-⅞	159	23.6	..
240	114	Lydenburg Plat	135	+3	16.5	13.7	..
290	121	MIM Hldgs	194	-1	3.2	1.7	..
155	70	MTD (Mangula)	70	..	25.3	38.2	..
393	132	Marievale Con	153	-8	66.0	44.4	..
91	41	Metals Explor	56	+1	..	..	..

RUBBER

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
130	75	Barlow Hldgs	110	..	4.3	3.9	..
555	305	Castlefield	400	..	8.6	1.9	..
57½	39½	Cons Plant	47	..	3.5	7.4	..
198	115	Doranakande	160	..	4.3	2.7	..
938	627	Guthrie Corp	675	• +13	42.9	6.3	..
232	153	Harrisons Malay	179	-1	11.4	6.4	..
61½	45	Highlds & Low	49	-1	2.1	4.4	..
740	485	Hongkong	740	..	60.0	8.1	..
545	363	Killinghall	540	..	20.0	3.7	..
465	290	Ldn Sumatra	331	..	11.4	3.5	..
130	68	Majedie	103	..	3.2	3.1	..

TEA

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
248	198	Assam Frontier	198	..	14.3	7.2	..
485	350	Camellia Inv	425	..	5.7	1.3	..
378	279	McLeod Russel	290	-3	21.4	7.4	..
332	263	Moran	280	..	11.4	4.1	..
158	108	Surmah Valley	108	..	3.2	3.0	..
211	132¼	Warren Plant	205	..	14.3b	7.0	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	29	..	6.8	23.3	..
34½	28½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£34½	..	500	14.5	..
27½	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£22	..	153	7.0	8.1
353	197	Imp. Cont Gas	238	+5	10.1	4.2	11.2
185	93	Milford Docks	126	..	9.8	7.8	..
136	88	Nesco Inv	132	+4	10.0	7.6	..
34½	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£34½	..	538	15.6	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Allied London Prop 8½% Cnv 1999 (‡)	£104½+1
Bell A. 9½% Conv 1999-2001	£96¾
Chester Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (†)	£108
Dunbar Group £1 Ord (303)	433+13
East Anglian Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (†)	£108
East Worcester Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (†)	£108
Essex Water 9½% Red Pref 1985 (†b)	£40⅞
Exchequer 12% Cnv 1985 (£97†g)	£40⅞-⅞
Exchequer 12% 'A' 1998 (†)	£91½-¼
Exchequer 12¼% 'B' 1999 (†h)	£20⅞
Ldn Merchant Secs 7¾% Cnv Ln 2000-05	£45⅞+1
New Tokyo Inv Trust 50p Ord	111-1
Portals 9½% Cnv 1994-2000 (‡)	£16⅞
Treasury 11½% 1989 'A' (†a)	£58-¼
Treasury 11¼% 2003-2007 'A' (†)	£88½-¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Norcros (60‡)	Mar 27	14 prem+½

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £60 paid b. £20 paid. f Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £20 paid.

Motoring

Headlights are compulsory during fog

Driving through Sussex in heavy fog last week, I was appalled, but not altogether surprised, at the number of motorists who had neglected to *switch on their headlights* and, in some cases, not thought it necessary to use lights at all.

But the police were stopping the culprits to point out the error of their ways. There could be some court appearances as a result, for driving without headlights in fog is *not only irresponsible* but a clear breach of the law.

Chief Inspector Jeffrey Winder, head of accident prevention for Sussex Police, said: "We have had legislation about the use of headlamps in daytime for *more than five years*. But there are still far too many drivers who either ignore it, or do not know about it, or simply do not *think*.

"It is not only a question of how far drivers can see but how quickly they can be seen, and this is something that is very difficult to get across. If we could do so, the roads would be a lot safer."

Mr Winder passed on the astonishing information that some drivers do not know where the headlamp switch is, presumably because they only use their cars during the day, and police officers have to point it out to them.

"Others are convinced that the headlights are on when they are not, while some people are under the impression that if they use their lights they are wasting the battery, which is a load of rubbish."

A particular hazard for drivers in Sussex is the large number of elderly people in the population. Mr Winder said: "You cannot tell these people to wear bright *clothing*, it is up to the motorist to look out for them. If drivers cannot, or will not, put their lights on in poor visibility, they should not be on the road at all."

The Road Vehicles (Use of Lights during Daytime) Regulations, of 1975, require drivers to use headlamps when visibility is "seriously reduced by fog, *smoke*, heavy rain or spray, snow, dense cloud or any similar condition". To omit to do so is an offence carrying a fine of up to £100.

Which is clear enough, though in partial mitigation it has to be said that the fog in southern England last week was patchy and interspersed with bright sunshine. Anyone driving, say, 50 miles, might have had to switch his lights on and off at least half a dozen times and could be forgiven for forgetting.

The fact remains that in Britain there is a curious reluctance to use lights, more so, in my experience, than on the Continent. Sweden ran an experiment by which cars kept lights *on all day, irrespective of the* conditions, and even in bright sunshine it made vehicles easier to spot.

Coincidentally, Mr John Miles, road safety officer of the Royal Automobile Club, has issued a warning about the dangers of driving without lights at dawn and dusk, when, as he rightly visibility is often at its worst.

Apart from the regulations already quoted, drivers are required to switch on their lights at lighting-up time and to use headlamps at night on all roads where there is no street lighting, or where street lamps are more than 200 yards apart (though this must be a matter of estimation rather than precise measurement).

Though *not legal requirements*, drivers are recommended to use headlamps at night on motorways and other high-speed roads and to use dipped headlights at night in built-up areas unless the road is well lit.

On the last point, there was an attempt by the transport minister five years ago to make dipped headlights compulsory at night in all conditions, but the *proposal proved controversial* and was dropped. Opponents felt there would be a danger of dazzling oncoming drivers, especially if the road was wet.

Mr Norman Fowler, the present Minister of Transport, has indicated that he does not intend to reopen the matter, though a lobby of road safety and lighting interests is still pressing for legislation.

During the debate in 1975 it was pertinently observed that since many headlamps were wrongly aligned, enforcing their *use at night in all circumstances* could cause more accidents than it saved. Even more serious is the large number of cars being driven with only one head light operating.

Such one-eyed monsters, besides being illegal, are very disconcerting to oncoming drivers and though they include a good proportion of old bangers *that would not stand up to* scrutiny in other areas, it is not uncommon to see headlamp failures in recently registered cars.

Since fascia warning lights are now available for most things, such a facility could usefully be *extended to the headlamps. Not* that warning lights themselves are necessarily infallible, as I discovered the other day when I was wrongly alerted to a low oil level.

According to surveys by Sussex Police, incidentally, one vehicle in five is being used on the road with a lighting defect.



Cut-price option—the Ford Fiesta Popular.

Road test: Fiesta Popular

Ford's thinking behind the Popular is that in what is certain to be a very tough new car market in 1981, its vehicles must be seen to be competitive. At £2,849 the car costs £300 less than the previous base Fiesta and until Fiat decided to cut its prices by 10 per cent it could *claim* to be the cheapest model available in the small hatchback sector.

The *Popular has been made* possible partly by Ford and its dealers taking a lower profit margin and partly by offering less standard equipment. Ford insists that the exercise is not just a ruse to lure customers into the showroom where they will be *persuaded to* buy a fully-priced Fiesta; on the contrary, the Popular is intended to be a substantial seller *in its own right.*

Potential buyers will have to decide whether £300 is sufficient incentive to entice them away from rival cars like the BL Metro, Volkswagen Polo, Renault 5 and Datsun Cherry and, if so, whether the Popular's depleted *specification* is acceptable.

On the Popular's competitiveness against other cars comparisons are difficult to make. The base Metro, for instance, costs £3,095, or £246 more, but it has several extra standard items such as a carpet in the passenger compartment and a heated rear window. And, as already indicated, the base Fiat 127 is cheaper than the Popular anyway.

Standard equipment on cars has improved steadily over the years, partly because motorists have demanded it but also through legislation which now demands that every new car fits *an outside mirror*, hazard warning light and rear fog lamp. So the Popular may be base but it is hardly basic, particularly when offering steel braced radial tyres and an item still far from common on more expensive models, a laminated windscreen.

What, then, is "missing"? The *interior is certainly spartan* by today's standards, with vinyl seat trim instead of cloth, rubber mats instead of carpet and areas of bare paint. The front seats do *not recline, which could cause* some drivers discomfort. Mechanically the most obvious omission is servo assistance on the brakes, which therefore require a stronger foot.

The things I missed most, because they directly affect visibility, and *safety*, were a heated rear window and a rear screen wash/wipe. I regard a heated rear window *as* essential on any car and would make it a legal requirement; and I would submit that the angle of the tailgate on a car like the Fiesta makes a very strong case for a wash/wipe to clear the window of rain and dirt.

The Popular has a 950cc overhead valve engine, in either high or low-compression versions depending on whether the preference is for better performance or better economy. Either way, the car offers reasonable acceleration and flexibility combined with 34 to 40 mpg fuel consumption. The engine is noisy through the gears and above 60 mph in top, so there is an inducement to treat it gently.

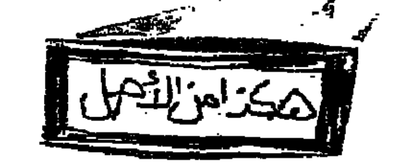
The car is pleasant to drive, with a good gearchange, light steering and crisp cornering, though the ride is below par. *Less than 12 ft long*, the vehicle is ideal for manoeuvring in heavy traffic and for tucking into tight parking spaces. The back seat easily takes two adults or it can be *folded flat for extra luggage* space.

Until the Metro arrived, the Fiesta was the best selling car in its field and one that could be safely recommended as a good all-rounder that because it is, nominally, at least, British is likely to cost less on insurance and spares. But the Metro, which has been outselling the Fiesta, claims even lower running costs.

Ford denies that the Popular was simply a riposte to the BL car but the Metro does present much stiffer competition than the Fiesta has faced up to now. Outstanding fuel consumption, good interior space, the split rear seat and 12,000 mile service intervals are all in the Metro's favour and asked whether BL intended to follow Ford's price-cutting move, a spokesman replied: "*Our car is already* popular."

Peter Waymark

(continued on page 26)



PERSONAL CHOICE

Maurice Roeves: The Journal of Bridget Hitler (BBC 2, 9.00)

● See Hitler materialize out of clouds of steam at Liverpool's *Lime Street Station*. See him spit at his father's portrait. See him drive his niece to suicide. See him pelted by beer cans in the restaurant at BBC Television Centre. Try as I might, I cannot avoid using the sensational language of the film posters to give you a flavour of Beryl Bainbridge's and Philip Saville's sensational play The Journal of Bridget Hitler (BBC 2, 9.00). Sensational not only in content, but in style, and I should need the rest of this column to itemize the technical tricks—part cinema, part television; part brilliant, part showy; part illuminative, part obfuscatory—resorted to in Philip Saville's TV film about the making of a TV film. As it will be endlessly discussed, you would be wise not to miss it.

● I am not too happy about The Walls of Jericho (BBC 1, 8.00), BBC Scotland's serial about those doughty women who, in the last century, campaigned to be admitted to the medical faculty at Edinburgh University. In general, the characterization has been wafer-thin, Luanshya Greer's writing is no more than *functional*, and the time shifts are bafflingly abrupt. The plus to set against these minuses is the performance of Sara Kestelman as Sophia Jex-Blake, the woman who inserts steel into her fellow fighters' corsets. Miss Kestelman puts fire into lines which are damply written. A few more performances like hers and we would begin to feel that the walls of Jericho really were cracking.

● With no surprise at all, I learn that Clare Francis, the brave yachtswoman, has been given the MC's job in tonight's edition of Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning (BBC 2, 11.35). I am only astonished it has taken so long. She has beauty, a ready wit, a relaxed manner, a wide range of interests, and no distracting mannerisms. If she is as good with interviewees as she has been with interviewers, there is absolutely no reason why she should not be all set for a highly successful new career.

● The performance of Berlioz's Symphonie fantastique by the Berlin Philharmonic under Von Karajan (Radio 3, 8.25) is the one given at last year's Salzburg Whitsun Festival. Earlier (7.30), we hear the Mozart Divertimento in D major K334. Earlier still, on Radio 3 (12.15), the BBC Northern Orchestra under Bryden Thomson play the Sibelius No 4 and (at 1.20) Arnold's sixth symphony . . . Clare Lawson Dick has made a fine job of abridging Boswell's *London Journal 1762-63 (Radio 3, 10.30 pm)* and Gary Bond is making an equally good job of reading it.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools, Colleges: Treffunkt: Deutschland. 9.25 Athlete: the high jump. 9.52 Look and Read: What is a King's Dragon? 10.15 Maths-in-a-Box. 10.35 The first week at work. 11.02 Hyn o Fyd: O Ddwr i Dir.
11.25 You and Me: How baklavas are made. *Also, an English version of a traditionally Turkish-Cypriot story.*
11.40 For Schools, Colleges: Maths File (episode 7 of a serial about a stolen painting). 12.05 Sixteen Up: Teenagers and the problem of a place to live. Closedown at 12.30.
12.45 pm News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: This edition includes Peter Seabrook's gardening item, Dig This. 1.45 How Do You Do? A story, counting games and rhymes. With Carmen Munroe.
2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Barry Purchase's play On Yer Bike! 2.35 Prospects for the working disabled. Closedown at 3.00.
3.20 Eira Ddoe (the snows of yesteryear). For Welsh viewers.
3.55 Play School: Pat Gibson's story The Kind Elephant.
4.20 Undercover Elephant: cartoon. Pain in the Brain. 4.25 Jackanory. Martin Jarvis's last reading from Lynne Reid Banks's The Indian in the Cupboard. 4.40 Think Again: Johnny Ball's theme today is explosions. 5.05 Grange Hill: serial about a comprehensive school. Episode 12. 5.35 The Perishers: with Leonard Rossiter (r).
5.40 News: with Kenneth Kendall.
5.55 Regional news magazines. And (at 6.20) Nationwide. With Alan Titchmarsh's gardening item *and Desmond Lynam's Sportswide.*
7.00 The Superstars: The men's final for the Ferguson Trophy. Competing are Keith Fielding, Lynn Davies, Jim Fox, Andy Ripley, Mike Channon, Peter Bonnetti, Mike Hazlewood and David Jenkins.
8.00 The Walls of Jericho: Episode 3 of this factual story of pioneer women medical students fighting for recognition in educational establishments in Britain. Tonight, the battle moves from Edinburgh to London (See Personal Choice).
8.50 Points of View: Barry Took with viewers' letters. 9.00 News: with Richard Baker.
9.25 International Ice Skating: Britain's Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean go for gold in the Ice Dance competition of the European Ice Skating Championship. From Innsbruck.
10.15 Peter Skellern: The singer, pianist and composer continues his autobiography.
10.50 Royal Heritage: Part 5 of this history of Britain's royal builders and collectors. Tonight, the first three King Georges, and what they passed on to us.
11.50 Film: Subterfuge (1968). Thriller about an American security agent (Gene Barry), apparently holidaying in England, who is involved in a murder and kidnapping. With Joan Collins, Richard Todd. Director: Peter Graham Scott. Ends at 1.20.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS:— BBC Cymru/Wales: 1.45 pm-2.02 O Dan y Mor. 2.02-2.22 I Ysgolion. 3.00-3.55 Snooker. 4.40-4.45 Fred Basset. 4.45-5.05 Slams Slone. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 7.00-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.00 Snooker. 8.00-8.25 Tomorrow's World. 8.25-8.50 Triangle. 10.15-11.05 Week In Week Out. 11.05-11.06 News. 11.06-12.05 am Royal Heritage. 12.05-12.35 Snooker. 12.35 Close. Scotland: 11.00 am-11.20 For Schools. 12.40 pm-12.45 Scottish News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 The Evergreen Years. 10.45-10.50 News. 1.20 am Close. Northern Ireland: 11.02 am-11.25 Closedown. 3.20 pm-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 1.20 am Close. England: 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional Magazines. 10.15-10.45 East—Weekend London. the South East—Peter Skellern. Midlands—Midlands Tonight. North—Politics North. North East—Coast to Coast: The Decision Makers. North West—Home Ground. South—The Pacemakers. South West—The Tolstoy Inheritance. 1.20 am Close.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School. Same as BBC 1, 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.
5.40 Harold Lloyd: Sequences from two of the bespectacled comedian's *silent* comedies, Number Please and Off the Trolley. There is an alien commentary, and the music track belongs to more recent times. Despite this, Lloyd's comic genius is unimpaired by the passing of time.*
6.00 Monkey. Japanese-made, English dubbed, fantastical adventure about old China.
6.45 Speak for Yourself: The series for people for whom English is not their first language. How to apologise for damaging someone else's property.
7.10 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.
7.20 Oxford Road Show: Light-hearted musical programme, with Rob Rohrer, Jackie Spreckley and Martin Bergman. Paula Yates provides the pop world gossip item.
7.55 In the Country: Yesterday's Farming. The question posed in tonight's edition is: are the farming methods of Victorian Britain making a practical comeback? There is coverage of the Cart Horse Company, and a visit to a farm in Buckfastleigh, south Devon. With Angela Rippon.
8.25 Under New Management? "Newsweek" report on the new climate of industrial relations in Britain, with the balance of power represented as shifting slightly in favour of the bosses.
9.00 Playhouse: The Journal of Bridget Hitler. Play about the private life of the Nazi dictator, based on his Irish sister-in-law's journal which most people think is a work of fiction. With Siobhan McKenna as Bridget, and Maurice Roeves as Hitler (See Personal Choice).
10.50 Newsnight: The news of the day, presented in bulletin form, with special features about the most important stories.
11.35 Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning: Chat and music show, compered by Clare Francis. With Hammond Innes, Ken Follett, Julie Walters, Dr Richard Mackarness, and Baby Grand. Ends at 12.30 (See Personal Choice).

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Botanic Man (with David Bellamy); 9.52 The changing face of Weston-Super-Mare; 10.15 French lesson: burglary; 10.38 A-level programme on fossils; 11.02 All about fruit; 11.14 Lenny the Lion; 11.26 Maths for the very young; 11.43 For the deaf.
12.00 The Magic Ball: Gerald Hagan's story. The Story of the Chimpanzee, with Eric Thompson's narration (r). 12.10 pm Once Upon a Time: Mark Wynter tells the story of Old Sheepdog. 12.30 A Better Read: The theme of Bill Grundy's books programme today is Westerns. He talks to Frederick Nolan, and J. T. Edson and John B. Harvey make their choices (r).
1.00 news. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 Together: More about the people who live in Rutherford Court.
2.00 After Noon Plus: With Mavis Nicholson and the Mike Westbrook Band.
2.45 Film: How to Break up a Happy Divorce (1976) Television movies, with Barbara Eden as the divorcee who tries to win back her husband. With Hal Linden, Peter Bonerz.
4.15 Watch It! Another of the Dr Snuggles the inventor stories (with Peter Ustinov's voice). 4.20 The Adventures of Black Beauty: Jonah, the white pony, makes a bolt for freedom (r). 4.45 Animals in Action: How Birds and animals make their decisions and feelings clear. With Keith Shackleton, the wildlife artist. 5.15 Clapperboard: Chris Kelly's movie programme, with clips from two of little Ricky Schroder's films, The Champ and Little Lord Fauntleroy.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news. 6.30 Thames Sport: What the weekend has in store.

London Weekend

7.00 pm Family Fortunes: Prize quiz, with Bob Monkhouse putting the questions. 7.30 Vegas: Robert Urich is the private investigator who probes two deaths which seem to have some sort of link with a cursed goblet.
8.30 The Gaffer: Comedy series about a struggling engineering business, run by Bill Maynard. Tonight, he employs an old Army friend, with unexpected results.
9.00 Second Chance: Third episode in this romantic drama about a divorced couple (Susannah York, Ralph Bates). Tonight, the divorced wife finds her family picnic spoilt by predatory males.
10.00 News. 10.30 Benson: Another of these American comedies about a governor's black butler (Robert Guillaume). Tonight, a visit to a waterfront bar.
11.00 The London Programme: What happens when complaints are made against the Metropolitan Police. The Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Thomas Hetherington, is interviewed.
11.35 Mannix: Drama about a missing diplomat. With Mike Connors as the detective hired by a Japanese private investigator to find the kidnapped man.
12.30 am Close: Sir Neil Cameron, Marshal of the RAF, reads Arthur Hugh Clough's Say Not the Struggle.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs.†
9.45 Feedback.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: Treasures of Provence, by T. V. Newmark.
11.00 News.
11.05 The Countryside in Winter.
11.50 Natural Selection.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 My Music.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: The Cradle Man, by Andrew Tyrrell.
4.05 Weigh-In.
4.15 Poetry Up to Now (5).
4.45 The Towers of Trebizond (3).
5.00 PM.
5.50 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile.
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 The Worm Forgives the Plough (10).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping Forecast.
VHF
9.05 am Schools: Contact; Music Interlude; Country Dancing Stage II (3); Notice Board (2); Music Workshop.
10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother.
11.00-12.00 Schools: Exploring Society; Listening and Writing (3); Prospect.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Let's Join In; Religious Education; Music Interlude.
11.00-12.00 Study on 4: Kontakte (15); Allez France!

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Purcell, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Walton.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Offenbach, Rachmaninov, Britten, Mozart (K299).†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Bach.†
10.00 Trio (Zingara): Mozart (K542), Shostakovich.†
10.50 Wind: Damase, Payne.†
11.20 French Baroque Cantatas: Montéclair, Rameau, Campra.†
12.15 pm BBC Northern SO/Thomson (live from RNCM, Manchester), pt 1: Nielsen, Sibelius (Sym 4).† (See Personal Choice)
1.00 News.
1.05 Story: Dancers, by Eva Tucker.
1.20 BBCNSO, pt 2: Berkeley, Arnold (Sym 6).†
2.05 What the Critics Said (5).
3.00 Violin (Zivoni): Ysaye, Wiseman.†
3.40 Piano duet: Ladmirault, Koechlin, Schubert (D813).†
4.20 BBC Singers/Poole: Brahms, Holst.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.55 Play it Again: preview.†
7.00 Poetry Now.
7.30 Berlin PO/Karajan, pt 1: Mozart (K334).† (See Personal Choice.)
8.10 One Pair of Ears: review.
8.25 BPO, pt 2: Berlioz (Sym Fant).†
9.25 The Eternal Husband (6).
9.45 Music in Our Time: Quartet, soprano (Medici/Manning): Tredici (I hear an army—1st UK broadcast), Guy.†
10.30 A Man of Pleasure (2). (See Personal Choice.)
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Haydn.†

VHF
11.15 pm-12.15 am Open University: The Pre-School Child—When Everything Gets You Down; Consumer Decisions — The County Court; Health Choices—Stirring it Up.

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Bob Kilbey.† 7.32 Terry Wogan.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm David Hamilton.† 2.03 Ed Stewart.† 4.03 Much More Music.† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.02 Take Your Partners.† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night.† 10.02 Castle's on the Air. 10.30 The Organist Entertains. 11.02 Brian Matthew. 2.02 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Steve Wright. 2.32 Dave Lee Travis. 4.32 Peter Powell. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.31 Anne Nightingale. 10.02 Friday Rock Show.† 12.00 Close.
VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

Regions

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):
6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Sarah and Company. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Intermezzo. 8.30 The Book Programme. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 What Ho, Jeeves! 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Assignment. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 London Heathrow—Anatomy of an Airport. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 *Commentary*. 4.15 *Theatre Call*. 4.35 Letter from London. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 The Week in Wales. 5.15 Music Now. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 8.15 Time Off. 8.45 Letter from London. 9.55 Waveguide. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 What Ho, Jeeves! 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Dancers of the Renaissance. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network U.K. 2.30 The Book Programme. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 My Word! 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Southern

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Pajama Game (Doris Day). 5.15-5.45 Gambit. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.00 Scene South East. 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.45 At The End of the Rainbow. 11.05 Benson. 11.35 Film: Hugs and Kisses (Sven-Bertil Taube). 1.25 am Weather followed by Daily Margaret.

Granada

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.50-4.15 Film: Angel Who Pawned Her Harp (Diane Cilento). 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30-7.00 Kick Off. 10.30 Week on Friday. 11.00 After All That, This. 11.10-1.45 am Film: Forever Amber (Linda Darnell).

Grampian

As London except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Murcheson's Creek (Mark Edwards). 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Points North. 11.30 Police Surgeon. 12.00 Seachd Laithean. 12.15 am-12.20 News.

Tyne Tees

As London except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: Top of the Form* (Ronald Shiner, Anthony Newley). 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Film: Horsemen (Omar Sharif, Jack Palance). 12.30 am-12.35 Countryside Christian.

Ulster

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45 Film: Passion (Cornel Wilde). 4.13-4.15 News. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Sportscast. 11.05 Benson. 11.35-11.45 Bedtime.

Yorkshire

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Passion (Cornel Wilde). 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 Hawaii Five-O. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 Snooker. 11.45-12.40 am Lou Grant.

Border

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Operation Bullshine (Donald Sinden). 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Your MP. 11.00 Quincy. 11.55-11.58 News.

Anglia

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Stolen Hours (Susan Hayward, Michael Craig). 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.30 7 Days. 11.00 Soap. 11.30 Film: Of Mice and Men* (Burgess Meredith). 1.30 am At the End of the Day.

ATV

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Sidekicks (Larry Hagman). 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 News. 11.05-12.55 am Film: My Undercover ears with the Ku Klux Klan (Don Meredith).

Channel

As London except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: House of Seven Gables* (Margaret Lindsay). 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Encore. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.28 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05-12.00 SWAT.

Westward

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: House of the Seven Gables* (Margaret Lindsay). 4.12-4.15 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.32 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05 SWAT. 12.00-12.05 am Faith for Life.

Scottish

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Daring Dobermans (Charles Knox Robinson). 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 7.30-8.30 Thingummyjig. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05-12.35 am Chastity Belt (Tony Curtis).

HTV

As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Bachelor of Hearts (Hardy Kruger). 5.15-5.45 Clapperboard. 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 WKRP in Cincinnati. 7.30-8.30 Chips. 10.28 News. 10.35 Report Extra. 11.05 Soap. 11.35-12.30 am Charlie's Angels.
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.35 am-9.50 Am Gymru. 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.45 Golwg ar Swn. 5.15-5.45 Muppet Show. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.35-11.05 Outlook.

Entertainments Guide

S Unsold seats at cut price to students just before performance. CC Most credit cards accepted for telephone bookings or at the box office.
When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258.
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight 7.30: Tosca. Tomor & Thurs 7.30: Cinderella. Tues 7.30 Romeo & Juliet. Wed 7.30: Madam Butterfly. 104 balcony seats avail from 10 a.m. on day of perf.

COVENT GARDEN, 240 1066 'S' (Gardencharge cc 836 6903) 65 Amphiseats avail for all perfs. from 10.00 a.m. on the day of perf
THE ROYAL OPERA
Ton't & Wed at 7.30 Un ballo in maschera (Paul Hudson replaces Forbes Robinson all perfs)
THE ROYAL BALLET
Tomor & Mon at 7.30 La Fille mal gardée Tues & Thurs at 7.30 Troy Game, A Month in the Country, Les Noces.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1 Tel 01-837 1672/1673/3856 Credit Cards 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. 01-278 0871.
Until Feb 21
D'OYLY CARTE presents GILBERT & SULLIVAN OPERAS
Eve. 7.30. Mats. Sats and Feb. 11 & 18 at 2.30. Tonight, Tomor. Iolanthe. Mon. to Wed. HMS Pinafore. Feb. 12 to 14 The Pirates *of Penzance. Tkts £2.00 to £7.50.*

CONCERTS

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL (01-928 3191). Tonight 8. LONDON SYMPHONY ORCH. Claudio Abbado. Hanna Schwarz. Mahler: Rückert Lieder. Symphony No 1.

THEATRES

ADELPHI S CC 01-836 7611 Evgs at 7.30. Sats. 4.0 & 7.45 Mats. Thursday at 3.0
TONY BRITTON PETER BAYLISS and ANNA NEAGLE in
MY FAIR LADY
"A MARVELLOUS SHOW"—Now! "SPECTACULAR"—D. Express. "STUNNING"—Time Out.
Now booking through to Oct. For Group Bookings Telephone 01-836 7358 or 01-379 6061

ALBERY—OMEGA SHOW GUIDE
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST, EDUCATING RITA, TOMFOOLERY DUET FOR ONE, PAL JOEY
CREDIT CARD SALES 379 6566 from 9 a.m. all major cards. No bkg fees. GROUP bkgs. 836 3962. STUDENT STANDBY £2.90.

ALBERY S 836 3878 cc bkgs 379 6565. Grp bkgs 379 6061. 836 3962. Eves 8. Thurs mat 3.00. Stalls from £2.90. Sat 5 & 8.15. "SIAN PHILLIPS 'A KNOCK-OUT'" S. Times/ S. Exp. DENIS LAWSON Most Promising New Actor DRAMA AWARD 1980
PAL JOEY
"IS SOMETHING TO BE SEEN AT ALL COSTS" (F.T.). RODGERS & HART'S GREATEST HIT (D. Mail). GLITTERINGLY SLEAZY, SHEER THEATRICAL RAZZLE DAZZLE Std.

ALDWYCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 (10-6, Sats 10-4). Info 836 5332 ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY Ton't 7.30. Tomor 2.00 & 7.30
THE SUICIDE
by Nikolai Erdman
'Highly entertaining farce' Time Out 'The RSC has uncovered a masterpiece' Gdn. With: O'Casey's award winning JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK (next perf 10 Feb) and Peter Nichols' PASSION PLAY (next perf 13 Feb) Prestel booking 43025 Group Sales 379 6061 RSC also at The Warehouse, Piccadilly.

APOLLO. S cc 01-437 2663. Grp. Sales 379 6061. LAST PERFS—ENDS TOMORROW! Ton't 8.0. Tomor 5.0 & 8.0.
RODNEY BEWES FRANCIS MATTHEWS
in "An unusually truthful and intelligent comedy" The Observer.
MIDDLE AGE SPREAD
COMEDY OF THE YEAR WEST END THEATRE AWARDS 1979

AMBASSADORS S cc 836 1171 Eves 8. Tue 3. Sat 5.30 & 8.30.
J. B. PRIESTLEY'S
Mystery Play
DANGEROUS CORNER
"One of the cleverest plays ever written" Daily Telegraph.

CHURCHILL cc 460 6677/5838 Bromley, Kent. 7.45 Sat 4.30 & 8 Thurs 2.30.
FAITH BROOK, JOHN ARNATT, LUCY GUTTERIDGE, TONY CAUNTER, DAVID TROUGHTON, in EDGAR WALLACE's thriller THE CASE OF THE FRIGHTENED LADY.

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. Last 2 weeks Mon-Sat. 8.15. Mats. Thur. 3.00. Sat. 4.00.
RALPH RICHARDSON
in the National Theatre prod. of
EARLY DAYS
by David Storey
RALPH RICHARDSON: "TRIUMPH" Gdn. "UNFORGETTABLE" Int Hld Trib "NOT TO BE MISSED" Punch. Group Sales 379 6061.

COTTESLOE (N.T's small auditorium). Tkts. normally £5.70 prevs £3.20 day tkts. from 10 a.m. £2.20. Students standby 45 mins before start £1.50. Prevs Ton't Tomor 7.45 THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN by Tom Taylor.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves 8. Fri Sat 6 & 8.45.
Robin Ray, Jonathan Adams Martin Connor, Tricia George in
A SATIRICAL REVUE
TOMFOOLERY
Words, music & lyrics of Tom Lehrer
"HILARIOUS, BARBED AND BUBBLY" Sunday Times "OUTRAGEOUS" Guardian

DRURY LANE, Theatre Royal. Tel. 01-836 8108.
THE BEST LITTLE WHORE HOUSE IN TEXAS
Opens Feb. 26 at 7.00. Reduced price previews Feb. 21, 23, 24, 25 at 8.00.

DUKE OF YORKS S 836 5122. Credit Cards 379 6565 836 9837 839 4682 Group Bookings 836 3962, 379 6061 Evgs 8.00. Sats 5.0 & 8.30. Stalls & Circle from £2.90.
FRANCES DE LA TOUR
ACTRESS OF THE YEAR
Swet awards 80
BEST ACTRESS
New Standard Drama Awards 80
BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS
1980 DRAMA AWARDS
and DAVID DE KEYSER
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
Drama Awards of the Year 1980
in TOM KEMPINSKI'S
DUET FOR ONE
BEST NEW PLAY
Drama Awards 1980
"THE AMAZING NEW PLAY" Daily Telegraph
"NO ONE INTERESTED IN THE THEATRE CAN AFFORD NOT TO SEE THIS PRODUCTION" F.T.

GARRICK (S) cc 01-836 4601 Evgs. 8.0. Fri. & Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 Reduced price Mats. Fridays Group Bookings 01-379 6061
WILLIAM FRANKLIN in
DEATHTRAP
"THE BEST THRILLER" D. T.
LAST WEEK—ENDS SAT.

GLOBE S cc 437 1592. 439 6770.
FOR 12 WEEKS ONLY
ROWAN ATKINSON
IN REVUE
Previews Feb. 17 & 18 at 8.00. Opens Feb. 19. 7.0. Subs 8.0. Sat Sat. 6.0 & 8.45. BOOK NOW!

GREENWICH THEATRE S cc 858 7755. Evgs 8.0 (sharp). Mat Sat 2.30 PRESENT LAUGHTER, by Noel Coward. "A total success . . . the playing throughout is excellent" F. Times. "Donald Sinden is immensely watchable" Times.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301. Jean-Claude Grumberg's
THE WORKSHOP
"NEEDS TO BE SEEN. LEE MONTAGUE VOLCANICALLY COMIC. LYNN FARLEIGH SUPERBLY TRUTHFUL" Tms. Mon.-Fri. 8 p.m., Sat. 4.30 & 8 p.m.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL. cc 01-930 9832. Only 11 more weeks. Mon-Sat eves. at 8.0 MAGGIE SMITH "a great tragicomic actress in full bloom" Financial Times in
VIRGINIA
"a beautifully crafted, highly emotional experience" D. Tel. A new play by Edna O'Brien from the lives and writings of Virginia and Leonard Woolf. Directed by Robin Phillips. "RADIATES PERFECTION" S. Exp. Latecomers may not be admitted.

KINGS HEAD. 226 1916. Dnr 7. Show 8. DAFFODILS — The Barrow Poets.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH cc 01-741 2311. Eves 7.30. Sats 4.30 & 8.15. HOBSON'S CHOICE. Cast includes Arthur Lowe, Julia McKenzie, Ronald Pickup. LYRIC STUDIO: Eves 8.0 MARIKA'S CAFE THEATRE with Marika Rivera.

LYRIC S cc 01-437 3686. evgs. 8.0 Mat Wed 3.0. Sat 5.30, 8.30.
DINSDALE LANDEN NICOLA PAGETT in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S
TAKING STEPS
"A VERY FUNNY EVENING. ENJOYED MYSELF ENORMOUSLY" Evening News
"THE BEST FARCE IN TOWN"—Punch.

LYTTELTON (NT's proscenium stage). Ton't 7.45 tomor 3.00 and 7.45 THE PROVOKED WIFE by John Vanbrugh.

NATIONAL THEATRE S cc 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON / COTTESLOE. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs. 928 5933. TOURS OF THE BUILDING daily (incl. backstage) £1.50. Info. 633 0880.

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 'S' Until Feb. 14 Mon. to Sat. Eves. 7.30, Wed. & Sat. at 2.00 THE RELAPSE by Sir John Vanbrugh.

OLIVIER (NTs open stage). Ton't tomor 6 pm (note early start) MAN AND SUPERMAN (including "Don Juan in Hell") by Bernard Shaw.

PALACE, S cc 01-437 6834
"OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL EVENING!" Daily Mail.
Rodger's & Hammerstein's
OKLAHOMA!
"A MAGICAL MUSICAL EXPERIENCE" S. Times.
Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. *3.00. For group bookings* 01-379 6061. Better selection of seats available Mon.-Thur.

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. Evgs 7.30. Mats Tues. Wed. Thur & Sat. at 2.45. JIM DAVIDSON, MOLLIE SUGDEN, WINDSOR DAVIES, MELVYN HAYES, CLIVE DUNN, LIONEL BLAIR in
DICK WHITTINGTON
"The audience, old and young, roared, screamed, yelled and laughed their approval" Fin. Times. Book now. Box Office and all agents. Credit cards accepted. Group sales box office 379 6061. FORTHCOMING ATTRACTION THE LIBERACE SHOW '81 Starring "MR SHOWMANSHIP"
LIBERACE
with supporting company OPENS APRIL 28th for 2 weeks only.
BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN

PALLADIUM 01-437 7373. Opening June 11 (Special Previews May 29).
MICHAEL CRAWFORD
BARNUM
THE SMASH HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL. Postal booking now open.

PHOENIX c.c. 01-836 2294/5. Credit Card Bookings 01-836 8611.
THAT'S SHOWBIZ!
The Sensational Variety Spectacular. OPENS FEB. 11TH AT 7.00. Sub. Twice Daily at 6.00 & 8.30. Prices: £2.60, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50.

PRINCE EDWARD. S cc Box Off. 437 6877. cc Hotline 439 8499. Grp. sales 379 6061. Eves 8.0 Mat. Thur. (Economy price) & Sat. 3.0.
EVITA
by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber. Dir. by Harold Prince.

PICCADILLY S 437 4506 cc 379 6565. Group Bkgs 836 3962/379 6061. Mon.-Fri. 8. Mat. Wed. 3. Sat. 6 & 8.40. Stalls from £2.90.
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO
in Willy Russell's new comedy
EDUCATING RITA
COMEDY OF THE YEAR SWET AWARD 1980
JULIE WALTERS MOST PROMISING ACTRESS DRAMA CRITICS' AWARD 1980
"SPLENDID THEATRE EVENING QUITE ASTOUNDING"—Time Out.
"A MARVELLOUS PLAY, HILARIOUS. IT SENT ME OUT MOVED, EXCITED & EXHILARATED" S. Tms.
RSC also at Aldwych/Warehouse.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 930 8681. Credit Card bookings 930 0846.
PAUL DANIELS in IT'S MAGIC
"TRIUMPH" Fin. Times. "A WINNER" Variety. "PURE MAGIC" Sun. Mirror. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0 Fri. & Sat. 6 & 8.45. Easter perfs.: Good Friday as normal. EXTRA MATS 20th & 21st APRIL AT 3.0.

QUEENS S cc 01-734 1166 01-439 3849 01-439 4031.
PENELOPE KEITH
Peter JEFFREY Barbara FERRIS
MOVING
A new play by Stanley Price Directed by Robert Chetwyn
Evenings 8.0. Mat. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15. Grp sales 379 6061 "STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART . . . A FUNNY AND MOVING STORY OF SELLING A HOUSE" *Daily Mail.*

RAYMOND REVUEBAR cc 734 1593. At 7, 9, 11 p.m. Open Suns. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New Acts! New Girls! New Thrills! 23rd sensational year! Fully air conditioned.

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS: 748 3354. Tues. to Sun. 7.30. JOINT STOCK in Say Your Prayers. New musical play by Nick Darke. "Admirable story telling . . . intelligent comedy" Times.

ROUND HOUSE 267 2564 Scarborough Theatre in the Round in SUBURBAN STRAINS. A Musical play by ALAN AYCKBOURN. Composed by PAUL TODD. Evgs 8. Mats Thurs & Sats 2.30.

ROUND HOUSE 267 2564
ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE COMPANY
THE DUCHESS OF MALFI with HELEN MIRREN 1 April-9 May
HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO DECLARE? 13 May-6 June
THE MISANTHROPE with TOM COURTENAY 1 July-1 August
Postal Booking now Open. Season Tkt. Available.

ROYAL COURT S cc 730 1745.
TOUCHED
By Stephen Lowe. Evgs. 8, Mon. all seats £2. "Beautifully written piece . . . the performances are superb". Gdn.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS 730 2554. FOUR IN A MILLION devised & Dir. by Les Blair. Evgs. 7.30. "Very funny, exceptionally enjoyable" S. Tms.

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888.
JOHN ALDERTON PAULINE COLLINS
"PLAY OFF EACH OTHER BEAUTIFULLY TOUCHING, FUNNY AND VERY MUCH ALIVE." Gdn.
In Charles Dyer's comedy
RATTLE OF A SIMPLE MAN
"COULD HAVE BEEN SCRIPTED FOR THEM." Times. "A THEATRICAL GEM." The People. Mon-Fri 8.0. Sat 5.45 & 8.45. Reduced Group Bookings 839 3092. Credit Card bookings. Only 839 7616 (9.30 a.m.-6.00 p.m. Sats 9.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m.). Last 4 weeks.

SHAW 01-388 1394
SHORT SEASON ONLY!
GOTCHA AND KILLING TIME
by Barrie Keeffe
Mat. Thurs 2.30. Evgs. 7.30.

ST. MARTIN'S. cc 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Tue. 2.45. Sats 5 & 8.
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
29th YEAR

STRAND cc 01-836 2660, 01-836 4143. Eve. 8.0. Thurs. 3.0 Sats. 5.30 & 8.30.
NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis. Group sales box office 379 6061.

SHAFTESBURY, cc Shaftesbury Ave., W.C.2. Tel. Box Office 01-836 6596 or 01-836 4255. Credit Card booking only 01-839 7516 or 01-839 4682 (9.30-6.00. Sats. 9.30-4.30) Group bookings only 01-839 3092
TOM CONTI & GEMMA CRAVEN
THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG
"This show is a real stunner. Two of the most engaging performances in London." D. Mail. Prices: Stalls & Royal Circle £8.00, £6.50, £5.00. *Circle £3.50 (£1.00 seats at Box Office)* (OAP's £4.00 Wed. Mats. best seats. Student Standby £4.00). Mon.-Fri. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Wed. 3.0. Sats. 5.0 & 8.30.

TRICYCLE THEATRE 269 Kilburn High Rd., NW6. 328 8626. Crucible Theatre's Production of BLACK BALL GAME by Don Webb. "It's brilliant" Gdn. "Very funny satire" Tms. Mons-Sats, 8pm.

VICTORIA PALACE cc. 01-828 4735/6, 01-834 1317. Evgs. 7.30. Wednesday & Saturday 2.45. Group Sales 01-379 6061.
ANNIE
"UNBEATABLE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT" Observer.

VAUDEVILLE S CC 01-836 9988. Twice daily 2.45 & 7.45. Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's SMASH HIT MUSICAL
JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT
GRP SALES 379 6061. "A DREAM OF A SHOW" D Ex "SIMPLY WONDERFUL" BBC EXTRA MATS DAILY AT 2.45.

WAREHOUSE Donmar Theatre, *Earlham Street, Covent Garden.* Box Office 836 6808. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't tomor 7.30 TELEVISION TIMES by Peter Prince. "Funny and constantly diverting . . . carried through with splendid attack" TLS. All seats £3.50, students £2 in advance from Aldwych Box Office.

WESTMINSTER. S. CC. 834 0283 Hugh Manning as C. S. Lewis in
SONG OF THE LION
Directed by David William
"TRULY IMPRESSIVE" Times. "SPELLBINDING" S.Telegraph. Evenings 7.45 until Saturday.

WINDMILL THEATRE. cc 01-437 6312. Continuous perfs nightly from 6.30 including Sundays. PAUL RAYMOND presents RIP OFF. Hotter than ever for 1981. The erotic experience of the modern era. 5th Great Year.

WYNDHAM'S. S 836 3028. cc 379 6565. Red. price. Gps 836 3962. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sat 6 & 8.40.
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST
"Exactly the shot in the arm that the West End needed" S Times. "One of the funniest shows London has seen in a very long time" Punch. "Hilarious" D Tel.

YOUNG VIC 928 6363. Ton't, Mon 7.30 ROSENCRANTZ. Sat, Tue 7.30 PYGMALION. Book now RICHARD II.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051 Air conditioning. Credit cards. LONDON'S GREAT NIGHT OUT From 8.00. Dining & Dancing 9.30 SUPER REVUE
"BUBBLY"
at 11: GRACE KENNEDY
DANCING TILL 1 a.m.
From Feb 16: BRUCE FORSYTH

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. 5th month Joseph Losey's film of Mozart's DON GIOVANNI (A) perfs. 1.00 (not Sun), 4.10, 7.40.
ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Andrei Tarkovsky's haunting new film STALKER (A). Progs. 1.50 (not Sun.), 4.50, 8.00.
ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. Cocteau's ORPHÉE (A) and Renoir's PARTIE DE CAMPAGNE (A) Progs. 5.45, 8.15. Sats/Suns also 3.15.
CAMDEN PLAZA, Camden Town 485 2443 (opp Tube) ISABELLE HUPPERT in Maurice Pialat's LOULOU (X) 2.35, 4.40, 6.45, 9.00.
CLASSIC 1 CHELSEA, King's Road. 352 5096. Isabelle Huppert in Pialat's LOULOU (X) progs 3.30, 5.30, 8.30. Last perf bookable.
COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave (734 5414). THE BLUE LAGOON [illegible]
CURZON, [illegible] 3737 [illegible] SARANDON [illegible] ATLANTIC CITY [illegible] 2.0 (not Sun) [illegible]
DOMINION, [illegible] 9562. [illegible] LOVE [illegible] Cont. [illegible] 7.00. [illegible]
EMPIRE, [illegible] 1234. [illegible] evening [illegible] perfs. [illegible] night s[illegible] (11 a.m. [illegible]) by post [illegible] THE FO[illegible] daily [illegible] late sho[illegible] Now [illegible] WILLIE [illegible] daily [illegible] 6.00, 8[illegible] p.m.
GATE CINEMA [illegible] 0220/7[illegible] MEMOR[illegible] 4.15, [illegible] TOWN [illegible] 11.15 p[illegible]
GATE TWO [illegible] 1177. [illegible] PRESEN[illegible] MIDLER [illegible] Last [illegible] 8.10. [illegible] p.m. [illegible]
GATE THREE [illegible] 483 2[illegible] THE [illegible] CHRYS[illegible] 3.50, 6[illegible]
GATE MAYFAIR [illegible] FAIR H[illegible] Park [illegible] 5.30, 8[illegible] 5 p.m.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). Jack Lemmon in TRIBUTE (AA). Sep. Progs Dly (inc Sun). Drs Open 2.10, 5.10, 8.10. Late Show Fri & Sat drs open 11.15. Seats bookable w/ends & Last Eve prog. & Late Show.
MINEMA 45 Knightsbridge 235-4225/6. Andrey Tarkovsky's "MIRROR" (U) (Russian dialogue—English subtitles). Daily: 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.00 pm.
ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771) ALIEN (X) IS BACK! in 70mm and Stereo sound. Sep. Progs. Wks. 1.45, 4.50, 8.00. Sun 4.20, 7.45. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.15.
ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin, Dolly Parton NINE TO FIVE (AA). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open Wks. 1.15, 4.20, 7.30. Sun. 3.00, 7.30. Late Night Show Fri. & Sat. Drs. Open 11.15.
ODEON ST. MARTIN'S LANE. BEING THERE (AA). For info 240 0071. Box Office 836 0691. Sep. Progs. Dly 1.50 (not Sun), 5.00, 8.10.
ODEON MARBLE ARCH, W2 (723 2011/2). THE EMPIRE STIKES BACK (U). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open Daily 2.30, 6.45. Late Night Show Sat.—THE SONG REMAINS THE SAME (A). Drs. Open 11 p.m.
PRINCE CHARLES.—Leic. Sq. 437 8181. British Premier Exclusive Presentation CALIGULA (X) Sep perfs Dly (inc Sun.) 2.15, 5.30, 8.45. Late show Fri & Sat 11.55 Seat: bkble Lic'd bar.
PLAZA 1, 2, 3, 4, Off Piccadilly Circus. 437 1234. Advance booking facilities same as Empire, Leicester Square.
Walter Matthau, Glenda Jackson **1. HOPSCOTCH (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns) 3.30 6.00. 8.30.
*4. AIRPLANE (A). Sept. progs daily 1.00 (not Suns) 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Late show Fri & Sat 11.15.
*3. MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns) 3.30, 6.00 8.30. Late show Fri & Sat 11.15.
**2 MY BODYGUARD (A) Sep. progs daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Late show Fri & Sat 11.15.
*No smoking area.
*No smoking.
SCREEN ON THE HILL. 435 3366. Woody Allen. STARDUST MEMORIES (AA). 3.20, 5.15, 7.10, 9.15. Ring 435 9787 after 3 p.m. for phone bookings.

EVENTS

WEMBLEY ARENA cc 01-902 1234
HOLIDAY ON ICE
WITH ROBIN COUSINS
Performances Daily except Mons. £2.20 to £5.20. Children half price. Car park. Season until Feb. 22.

NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W1. 629 6176. 108th ANNUAL WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION. Until 20 Feb. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30; Thurs until 7.
AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W1. 629 6176. Peter Brook [illegible] until 27 Feb. [illegible]
ANTHONY D'OFFAY, 9 & 23 Dering St., W1. British Art 1900-1950. [illegible] 1578.
BANKSIDE GALLERY, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, SE1. Royal Society of Painter-Etchers and Engravers. Contemporary Prints [illegible] until Feb. 15. [illegible] 2-6 [illegible] Sunday [illegible] students [illegible] OAPs.
BRITISH LIBRARY in Brit. Museum. [illegible] until 26 April. [illegible] until 31 [illegible] 2.30-6. Sun. [illegible]
BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St., 734 7984. [illegible]
FISCHER FINE ART, 30 Kings St., St. James's, S.W.1. 839 3942. HANS HARTUNG [illegible] until 13 Feb. Mon-Fri 10-5.30. Sats 10-12.30.
HOLSWORTHY GALLERY, a graphic view of the world about us. Kelly, [illegible] Byrne, [illegible] Jan. 21-Feb. 14. 205 New King's Rd. [illegible] 2212.
LEFEVRE GALLERY, 30 Bruton St., W.1. [illegible] Twentieth Century [illegible] Mon-Fri [illegible]
LEGER GALLERY, 13 Old Bond St. THOMAS ROWLANDSON — 63 Original Watercolours. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30 until 27th Feb.
MARLBOROUGH [illegible] Albemarle St., W.1. [illegible] London [illegible] First [illegible] 6th. [illegible] Until Feb.
REDFERN GALLERY. ADRIAN HEATH, New Paintings 1978-80 January 20-February 20, 20 Cork Street, London W.1. Mon-Fri. 10-5.30, Sats 10-12.30.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS PICCADILLY, W.1.
1. A New Spirit in Painting until 18th March [illegible] Concessionary Rate [illegible]
2. Honoré Daumier 1808-1879 until [illegible] March. Adm. £1.50. Concessionary Rate £1.
3. Painting from Nature until 15th March. Adm. £1.00. Concessionary Rate [illegible]
All exhibitions open daily 10-6. Concessionary Rate applies — O.A.P.'s, students, groups over 10 and until 1.45 p.m. Suns.
THE COTTAGE GALLERY, 9 Hereford Rd., W.2. 01-231 4578. German Expressionists. Selected drawings and woodcuts. Tues-Fri. 10-6. Sat. 11-3. Until 7th Feb.
THE WARWICK ARTS TRUST.—33 Warwick Sq. St. George's Drive. SW1. Howard Hodgkin *Paintings* and Drawings. Daily 10-5.30. Sat. 10-1 until March 7th.

Classified Guide

Box No. replies should be addressed to: The Times, P.O. Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8EZ.

How to Place a Classified Ad.

To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel.:

Private Advertisers Only	01-837 3311
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Manchester Office	061-834 1234

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel.: Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, Extn 7180
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The deadline for all copy is one clear publishing day. *i.e.* Monday is the deadine for Wednesday, Friday for Monday & Tuesday. Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication; for Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

Classified Rates

Personal Columns	£3.25 per line £17.50 per cm semi-display £20.00 per full display
Appointments	£3.25 per line £17.50 per cm semi-display £20.00 per full display
Property	£3.25 per line £17.50 per cm semi-display £20.00 per full display
Weekend Shoparound	£14.00 per cm full display, minimum 5 cms
Court Circular	£5.00 per line
Box Numbers	£5.00

". . . BEHOLD, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith."—Habakkuk 2 : 4.

BIRTHS

ABLITT.—On 4th February, 1981 at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Emma (née Knowles) and Michael, a daughter, Helen, a sister for Zoë.

AUSTIN.—On February 4, 1981, in Cardiff to Erica (née Webb) and Dudley Austin, a son (Edward), a brother for Victoria Marie-Louise, Rebecca and Sophia.

BARNETT.—On January 30th, in Tucson, Arizona, to Colin and Yvonne (nee Olney)—a son, a brother for Timothy and Jonathan.

CALVERT.—On 4th February, to Diane (nee Outhwaite) and Andrew—a daughter (Sophie Elizabeth), a sister for Lucinda Jane.

GAMLEN.—On Jan. 26th, at Withington Hospital, Manchester, to Phil and Val—a son (Toby Philip Edward), a brother for Andrea and Gillian.

HAMMOND. — On February 5th at the Ipswich Hospital to Elizabeth (nee Homan) and Timothy a son Charles.

HODGSON.—On January 29th, 1981, to Catherine (nee Sanford) and William — a son (Douglas Alexander), brother for Olivia and Robert.

JONAS.—On 4th February, to Penny (née Barker) and Christopher, a daughter (Freya Josephine Wendy). A sister for Peter, Toby and Max.

LEWIS.—On February 3rd, at Queen Mary's, Roehampton, to Jane (nee Bryant) and Richard—a daughter (Sarah Eleri).

MATTHEWS.—On Jan. 30th, at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Sally (nee Northridge) and Paul—a son (William), a brother for Rupert and Sophie.

McFARLANE : GLOVER.—On the 23rd January, 1981, to Tina and Allen—a daughter (Caroline Juliette).

MILLAR.—On Tuesday, 3rd February, at St. Thomas's Hospital, to Scilla (nee Lord) and Graham, a son (Neil).

PLATTS.—On February 2, 1981, at The Royal Free Hospital, to Sandy and Andrew, a daughter, Helen Jane.

SACKS.—On 19th January, 1981, at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington—a son (David Morris) to Roberta (nee Arenson) and John, a brother for Deborah and Rachel.

SULLIVAN.—On February 2, 1981, at City Hospital, Nottingham, to Susan (nee Bain) and John, a daughter Jessica Margaret.

WOOLLCOMBE.—On February 5th, to Juliet and Kenneth — a daughter (Catherine Margaret).

BIRTHDAYS

DEMETRIOU, SOPHIA. — Wishing you a very happy 17th birthday. —From Ruth and Kate.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY C.J. Love from Ren, Joan, Louise & Olivia. We handled this.

DEATHS

BARGMAN, MAUD McKENZIE, beloved mother of John, Hugh, David and Ann, formerly of Durban, Natal and Nairobi, Kenya, died peacefully at Buckingham on 29th January in her 87th year. Private cremation took place at Oxford on 3rd February.

BEALE.—On February 4th, 1981, Percival Spencer (Peter), husband of Peggy and father of Robert and Jeremy, suddenly at his home near Geneva, aged 74 years. Cremation to be arranged in Switzerland.

BRATLEY.—On January 29th, 1981, suddenly at his home, 55 Hanover Steps, St George's Field, Bayswater, Peter, aged 39 years, very dear friend of Richard and Michael. Service at St Mary's Church, Gibbet Street, Halifax, on Friday, February 6th, at 2 pm, followed by cremation. Enquiries please ring Halifax 59634.

CLARKE.—On February 4th, 1981, peacefully at home, Dorothy Ida Clarke, G.M., widow of Geoffrey Clarke, affectionately regarded by family and many friends. Funeral at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Lavenham, on Tuesday, February 10th at 12.15 p.m. followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only.

DICK.—On February 4th, 1981 at Edinburgh, Commodore John Mathew Dick, C.B., C.B.E., V.R.D., R.N.V.R. (retired), formerly Solicitor to the Secretary of State for Scotland and in Scotland, Solicitor to H.M. Treasury. Funeral private.

DOYLE, MARTIN. — On 3rd February, 1981, Cyril Martin Doyle of 83 Albert Road South, Malvern, formerly of Worcester, in his eightieth year. Beloved husband of Gladys, much loved father and grandfather. With Christ. Funeral Malvern Priory on Monday, 9th February, at 2.15 p.m. No flowers but donations if desired to Scripture Union, P.O. Box 38, Bristol, BS99 7NA.

DWYER, TERRY.—On 2nd January, 1981, in London, brother of Celia.

FARQUHARSON. — On 4th February, 1981, aged 78 years, John Pollock Farquharson of Bradwardine, Kirkton, Dumfries. Beloved husband of the late Sheila Farquharson and dear father of Jane. Private cremation followed by Memorial Service at Kirkmahoe Church, Kirkton, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 11th February. Family flowers only.

FRAZIER.—On February 3rd, peacefully, in hospital after a short illness, Jessie Edwina, of 70 Prospect Lane, Solihull, wife of the late Rowland Wynne Frazier, of Mosley and loved mother of Joan and Heather. Service and cremation at Robin Hood Crematorium, Solihull, on Wednesday, February 11th, at 3 pm. Family flowers only.

GADNEY.—On 31st January, Cyril Gadney, M.B.E., beloved husband of Gwen, and dear brother of Bernard. Private cremation. No flowers or letters, please, but donations may be sent to the Middlesex Memorial Trust, 19, The Crossway, Eltham, S.E.9 and would be greatly appreciated.

GALE. MARJORIE LOUISE.—On January 31st, of 1 Cedars Road, Beddington, dearly loved mother of Rodney, Corinne, Zoë, Judy and Dee.

GOLDSMITH, DOROTHY GLADYS. M.B.E., on 2nd February, 1981. Greatly respected and loved mother and grandmother.

DEATHS

GRAHAM, H. M. (DOLLY).—On February 4th, 1981, peacefully, at the Littlebourne Nursing Home. Dear sister of Leslie, Irene and Mike. Cremation at Barham Crematorium, Barham, at 2 pm, Wednesday, February 11th. Family flowers only.

HAYGARTH.—On February 3rd at Horsham, Cecil Hary Spencer, aged 85, much loved husband of Edna and father of John and Nigel.

MALONE.—On February 3rd at Great Hyde Hall, Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, suddenly and peacefully, Dr Eileen Dillon Malone, 76, widow of Dr Louis Dillon Malone, dearest mother of Mary, the late Paddy, and Stephen, loving grandmother of Louise, Hugo, Patrick and Daniel. Funeral Mass, Tuesday, February 10th, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Cannock, Staffordshire, at 10.00 a.m., followed by the burial at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Brewood.

NORTON.—On February 4th, 1981, peacefully at home, William John aged 95 years, of Hollywood Bowdon, Cheshire, husband of the late Joanna Norton. Dear father of David and the late George. Much loved grandfather to Patricia, Christopher, Anne and Michael and great-grandfather to Edward and James. Service in St. Vincent's Church, Altrincham, on Monday, February 9th, at 11 am and afterwards interment in Hale Cemetery. Flowers from the family only, please, but if wished, gifts for The British Heart Foundation may be sent to Messrs John G. Ashton & Co. Funeral Directors, Church St. Altrincham, Cheshire. Tel.: 061-928 7816.

OGILVIE.—Suddenly on 3rd February, Mary (née Cameron), wife of Stiven Ogilvie, P.O. Box 106, Southbroom, 4277 South Coast, Natal.

RODERICK, JENNY (nee Ainsworth-Davis) on 4th February, of cancer. Funeral at Longparish, Hampshire, Parish Church on Wednesday, 11th February, at 2 p.m. "Her name is Courage".

SCOTTER, GENERAL SIR WILLIAM —On February 5th, suddenly at home, 47 Valiant House, S.W.11, aged 58. Funeral at the Royal Garrison Church of All Saints', Farnborough Rd., Aldershot on Wednesday, February 11th at 11.30. Family flowers only. A Regimental Memorial Service will be held in Carlisle, Cumbria, later.

SHAPLAND.—On February 4th, Arden Francis Terrell, Major (retired), Royal Scots Fusiliers. Family cremation. Church service in Appledore at a later date. No letters, please.

SHEARER.—On February 5, 1981, peacefully at home aged 87 years Phyllis Muriel Shearer, daughter of the late Sir Charles Mules, CSI, MVO, OBE, much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral private.

SMITH, BRIGADIER THE REV. ERIC BINDLOSS, C.B.E., on 2nd February, 1981, at 3 Oriel Flats, Goring, aged 81. Requiem Mass at 11.30 on 12th February, at Christ The King Catholic Church, South Stoke Rd., Woodcote, nr. Reading. Burial in St. Giles Cemetery, Cambridge.

TAYLOR-SPUR, M. S. M., late 9th Lancers in his 89th year, peacefully at Royal Hospital, Chelsea, beloved father of Arthur and Tony. Service at Streatham Crematorium, on Friday, 13th February, at 11.15 a.m. All friends welcome, flowers should be sent direct.

THEODOLY, DON CIVIO.—On 2nd February, in Hague, Holland. Retired Italian Ambassador.

THOMPSON, EDWIN ROBERT. Beloved husband of Katherine and father of Vicky and Jennifer, suddenly in London on 4th February, 1981. Funeral private. No flowers, please.

TOLLINGTON, LT. COL. HENRY DESMOND.—On 4th February, 1981, peacefully at home after a short illness, in his seventy-fourth year, greatly loved husband and father. Funeral at 3 p.m. at Turners Hill Church, nr. East Grinstead, Sussex. Family flowers only, donations if wished to Kidney Patients Assoc., Hants.

WHITWORTH JONES.—On February 4th at Roehampton Hospital, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Whitworth Jones, G.B.E., K.C.B., retired, devoted husband of Nar. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11th. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, 67 Portland Place, London, W1N 4AR.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BOWEN.—A memorial service for Dr E. J. Bowen will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 28 February, in the Chapel of University College, Oxford.

ORWELL.—A memorial meeting will be held for Mrs Sonia Orwell at The Arts Club, 40 Dover St., W.1. on February 10th at noon.

IN MEMORIAM

BARNES, ALICE MARY 6th Feb., 1884–26th Feb., 1969. For Mother on her Birthday with love.

FLOOD, W. J.—Remembrance with love, today and every day.—Glad, Joey, Mala & families.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRITISH SURGEONS are amongst the best in the world—a reassuring fact when you or someone close to you, through illness or injury, need their skills. Responsibility for the standards of surgical care throughout the country is vested in the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The College also undertakes major research projects in fields such as anaesthesia, arthritis, asthma, birth defects, blindness, cancer, dental decay, organ transplantation and thrombosis. Yet it is an independent body financed largely through gifts. Help continue its vital work. Your gift, covenant or legacy will be gratefully received by the Appeal Secretary, Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35/43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PN. (Registered Charity No. 212808.)

CLERGY family seeks inexpensive cottage/villa. Portugal/Spain/France. July-August.—Gregory 026371 3173.

SUSAN.—Please have dinner with me.—Love, Nicholas.

DR MASSIS.—I have lost my wallet containing some ID cards and documents. Will the finder kindly contact 602 2299.

FLY TO MENORCA—Feb 14th-16th to see how Timeshare works.—See Holidays & Villas.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,443

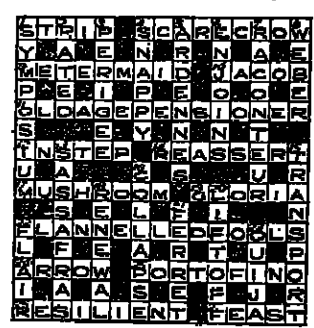
ACROSS

1 Suitable medium for explaining fundamentalism? (5, 7).
9 Damage by a number in the far north, perhaps (9).
10 Some ground for making the most of the existing staff? (5).
11 Portraitist holds on, though isolated (6).
12 It's involved in a spell of radical reform (8).
13 Felonious act I do perhaps in Burma (6).
15 Original metal brought into force (8).
18 Swimmer appears to be in difficulties (8).
19 Motor mechanic's grand finale? (3, 3).
21 Players showing a loss are dejected (4, 4).
23 Gives us poor reception in stable? (6).
26 In all, another plain type (5).
27 Game for 28 for instance? (9).
28 Charming relatives hailing from Stratford? (5, 7).

DOWN

1 Frustrated scholar, head of form, ran away (7).
2 The old club's in the soup (5).
3 Dance given by county farm—no-one turns up (9).
4 Wanted to drive through the wood? (4).
5 Where a general on a wild horse may be seen from a ship? (3, 5).
6 Parabolic broadcaster (5).
7 Need it if translation is clear? (8).
8 A one-time snooker on the green? (6).
14 Late labour politician—or voter? (8).
16 Still inefficient? (9).
17 Cause of wet areas scattered along the 5 (3-5).
18 Easy to get a number into line (6).
20 Title of the foreign game (7).
22 One of the attendants in the Queen's Flight? (5).
24 Beginning of the line is a figure of speech (5).
25 Members joined man in play (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,442



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LADY HAILSHAM FUND

exists to help teenagers who have been in the care of the Church of England Children's Society to make their own way in the world. This project, established by Lord Hailsham in memory of his wife, needs your help. Donations—and requests for further information—to:

MARK WYNDHAM, ROOM T, CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY, OLD TOWN HALL, KENNINGTON ROAD, LONDON, SE11 4QD.

CARING FOR THE ELDERLY....

Mr. and Mrs. Green were ill, old, desperate . . . but Counsel and Care for the Elderly made life happy again by finding them a home together and the finance to meet the cost. Only 86p a day, £6 a week, is needed to help others like them. Please send donations to:

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131 MIDDLESEX STREET,
LONDON, E1 7JF.
Tel.: 01-247 9844.

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For more information or to book your advertisement

Ring Stella Scrivener on 01-278 9351

CANCER RESEARCH

The scientific understanding of cancer is the one sure basis of all clinical progress. Will you help us progress towards our common goal? Please make whatever contribution you can to:

Imperial Cancer Research Fund
Room 160AE
P.O. Box 123
Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3PX

EXCHANGE, large secluded house, central Cambridge or beautiful cottage, Dorset Coast for similar Scotland for 3 weeks. August or September. Cambridge 315470.

ARIZONA, U.S.A.—Real estate Corp. seeks sales people.—See Recruitment opportunities today!

JUNIOR SECRETARY/CLERK, nr Bond St. Tube. See Sec. Vacs.

SECRETARY/P.A. to M.D. See La Creme de la Creme today.

SCRABBLERS: Entry forms for National Scrabble Championship, 1981, from Gyles Brandreth, NSC, P.O. Box 2, Eros House, Feltham, Middx. No entry fee, but please send stamped s.a.e.

HEART OF CHELSEA. S. facing luxury Flats.—See London Flats.

NOT SO MUCH A JOB, more a way of life.—See General Vacancies.

DIAMONDS, rubies, emeralds, sapphires, opals. Bought by City Gold in "Wanted".

EVERY PHONE needs a MATE.—You could try Snoopy.

AMBITIOUS YOUNG MAN, with experience in Arts, Theatre and Finance, seeks job. See Sits. Wanted.

£100 off your new handmade Sofa. See JBD For Sales column.

GOLFING PICTURES by H. M. Bateman: daughter requires information. Tel.: 0823 672253.

IQ test/membership details from Mensa (B), FREEPOST, Wolverhampton WV2 1BR. Tel.: 0902 26055.

WOULD Mr. Ralph Jeharaus Visagie or anyone knowing of his whereabouts please ring 01-504 4996 after 6 p.m.

THE CREAM of Cornish holiday homes and hotels can be seen in The Times Holidays and Hotels feature every Saturday. If you own a hotel, a house, a cottage or even a converted barn and you want to let for the season, ring us now on 01-278 9161.

SKILLED MECHANIC with executive potential required immediately.—See Rec Ops.

HELP weekend cottage, For personal refuge at a peppercorn rent needed by Erin Pizzey.—Box No 2727 F, The Times.

ROYAL ASCOT BOX required.—See under wanted.

MORGAN for sale, unregistered.—See motor cars today.

FOURTH needed for good but sociable private Bridge school. Central/West London.—Box No. 2595 F, The Times.

SEEPS & WARPS. — Most honourable of Fellowships in Plenary. Petts Bottom, Saturday the 7th CJC.

VALENTINE. — Gifts delivered. Discreetly. See services.

FINANCIERS required to pioneer project training disableds for lucrative careers. S. Goswami, 59, Thistle St., Edinburgh, 031-226 3811.

WOODCOTE HOUSE SCHOOL, Windlesham. Celebrations and appeal (50 years same family). All old boys who have lost touch please communicate Mark Paterson.

WOULD JACK HAMILTON, formerly of Rathangan, co Kildare Eire, or anyone knowing of his whereabouts, please contact Box No 2414F, The Times.

THE PUERILES meet at 1 p.m. 3-5 Pembroke College, Oxford.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anyone surviving heart disease knows the value of research. It saves thousands of lives every year. To save even more, we need your help now.

British Heart Foundation
57 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4DH.

TIMES CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING WORKS

THOMAS HARDY PARADISE

DORSET.—17th century cottage in National Trust country. Unspoilt beach 7 minutes walk, pretty garden, sleeps 4. From £70 p.w.

This exquisite little 17th Century cottage set in the heart of the countryside that inspired Thomas Hardy also inspired our readers—the delighted advertiser, received 20 replies from just one day's advertising and she was able to cancel the rest of her 4 + 1 day free insertion—her comment was I always get excellent response from The Times—inspire success now

Ring 01-837 3311

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 24

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KEITH LINDSAY MATHIAS, contact mother. Urgent.

CHAMPAGNE by Teddy on Valentines day. See Services.

BUSINESSMEN! Relax.—See Personal Guide in Services.

PRINTED CIRCUITS W.Q.—Every Monday in Bus. Services Guide.

HAPPIER LIVES for lonely old people can be provided by your Will. Please include a bequest for the National Benevolent Fund for the Aged, 12 Liverpool Street, London EC2.

SKI INSTRUCTORS for Scotland. From Feb. 12th. See Gen. Vacs.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GASLIGHT of St. James's London's more interesting businessman's night club, 3 bars, restaurant, dancing, cabaret spots. No membership required. Open Mon.-Fri. 8 p.m.-2 a.m., Sat. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. 4 Duke of York St., S.W.1. 01-930 1648/4950.

ROYAL OVER-SEAS LEAGUE, Park Place, St. James's. The elegant conference and banquet venue. Contact Banqueting Manager, 01-493 5051.

THE DIRECTORS LODGE CLUB. Visit one of London's longest established gentlemen's clubs. Medieval atmosphere — exciting cabaret—beautiful girls. Entrance £5 non members. 13 Masons Yard, Duke St., St. James, S.W.1. Mon.-Sat. 6.30 p.m. to 3.00 a.m. Tel. 930 2540.

SPORT AND RECREATION

WEEKLY and Weekend Acting Courses, Chepstow Theatre, Kensington. April to August. Director: Marian Naylor, 3 Carver Road, London, S.E.24. 01-274 2811 (after 4 p.m.).

ROYAL ASCOT BOX required.—See under Wanted.

TROUT, salmon fishing courses. Bingham, Coryton, Okehampton.

STALKING, SHOOTING, fishing, sailing, windsurfing, with very comfortable house in beautiful highland Lochside setting. Ideal family holiday. August. 01-352 7637.

ARTHUR MURRAY.—We were only kidding—come dancing! Call Strand 930 0631.

SEASONAL SALES

BUILT-IN COOKERS

TRICITY 2175. DOUBLE OVEN, FAN ASSISTED MAIN OVEN, STAY CLEAN LININGS, AUTO-TIMED MAIN OVEN. GREAT VALUE £289.

TRICITY 2255. HOB. BRUSHED CHROME FINISH. £114.85.

MOFFATT 4233 CERAMIC. BLACK CERAMIC FINISH. £220.35.

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